

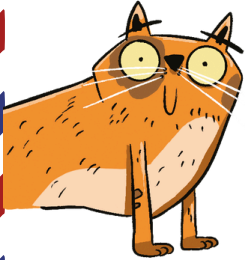
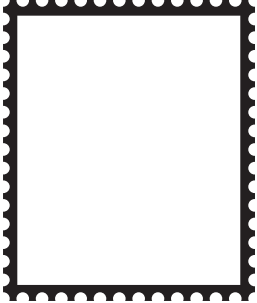
# POCKET BOOK OF POCKET POEMS

By A.F. Harrold, illustrated by Jack Viant

## Activity Pack

"One of the things I enjoy is writing a poem onto a postcard, adding a name and address, sticking a stamp on it, and then dropping the postcard in the bright red pillar-box that's over the road. My dad was a postman, and I was postman for a very brief time too, once, long, long ago, and I know that delivering the handwritten letters and postcards, the things that carried a little bit of human heart with them, was one of the things that made it such a good job." – A.F. Harrold, poet of *A Pocket Book of Pocket Poems*

Write a message to a postal delivery worker below, thinking hard about how you'd make them laugh! Draw a unique, colourful stamp matching the theme of your message.

	
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## Healthy Eating Poem

Do not  
do that  
doughnut.



A **PUN** is a joke that makes use of different meanings of the same word, or similar-sounding words.

The poem above uses puns and the rhythm of the syllables to create a funny effect when it's read out loud. Try writing your own short, punny poem below! Some words you can use to create puns are: **Door/Adore/Dour**; **Nose/Knows/Snows**; **Great/Grate**; **Peak/Pique/Peek**; **Red/Read/Reed**

## What are Poems Made Of?

I made you this poem.  
I made it from words.

I could've been braver  
and tried to use birds

or silver-bright fish  
or an odd fruity smell,

but I don't think it would've  
come out quite as well.



P.S. That smell isn't me, it's you.  
(Check your shoe.)

The poem above ends in a funny, unexpected way. **What has the poet done to achieve this?**

Poems can look lots of different ways – they can look like prose, or they can be really short, or they might rhyme or they might not. **What counts as a poem to you?**

The poet says he could have used birds, fish, or a fruity smell to make a poem instead of words – if you couldn't use words to make a poem, what would you use instead?

Think about memorable sights, strong sensations, and emotions.

Pick a poem you've read a few times before. Try changing the title of the poem, or the last line. How does this change the meaning or tone of the entire poem?



A collection of hilarious short poems you'll want to keep close, from Carnegie-nominated poet **A.F. Harrold**, with brilliant illustrations by **Jack Viant**

