**Glossary of terms used in poetry and books**

Alliteration - the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words

e.g. sweet silver stream

Iambic meter - the rhythm of a line as a result of the stresses in the words (short/ long)

e.g. exist, belong

Metaphor - a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable.

e.g. all the world is a stage

Personification - the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something non-human

e.g. The sun woke up and smiled

Repetition - the simple repeating of a word, within a sentence or a poetical line, with no particular placement of the words, in order to secure emphasis

Rhyme -the way that words sound the same at the end of lines in poetry. Poems often have a fixed rhyme-scheme

e.g. Sonnets have 14 lines with fixed rhyme scheme (ABAB CDCD EFEF GG)

Rhyming couplet - two lines of the same length that rhyme and complete one thought. There is no limit to the length of the lines.

Similes - a figure of speech involving the comparison of one thing with another thing of a different kind, used to make a description more emphatic or vivid

e.g. As brave as a lion





**Worcestershire Health Libraries**

**Reading aloud**



**A short guide**

**September 2019**



**Introduction**

Reading aloud has been set up as a part of the Happy Cafes run by 4ward leads supported by Worcestershire Health Libraries. It consists of Library staff reading aloud poems on themes to a group of people and then encouraging discussion and other people to read aloud.

**Bibliotherapy** is an expressive therapy that uses an individual's relationship to the content of books and poetry and other written words as therapy.

Storytelling is sometimes known as bibliotherapy.  Bibliotherapy can:

* help to improve communication and make a connection with people
* encourage reminiscence in people with dementia
* reduces boredom, depression and loneliness
* increases confidence
* acts as an enjoyable distraction

**Some advice**

Encourage people to sit in a circle

Try and find a fairly quiet place

Introduce yourself and the service

Emphasis that no one is going to be “force” to read

Offer to read extracts

Don’t read in a “poetry” voice – read in your normal way

Discuss the content

Follow the lead of the group

Use open questions when exploring content of poem/ book

**Seven basic tips when reading and sharing poetry**

**1 Read the poem**

This might sound daft but follow the punctuation and rhyme of the poem.

**2 Work out what it means**

Some poems are descriptive and follow a narrative others are more obscure. Discuss what you think was going on.

**3 Imagery**

Look at the imagery used – metaphors etc. To what affect are they used? Do they enhance the meaning? Are any used at all?

**4 Rhyming pattern**

Does the poet use a rhyming pattern? What is it? Does it add or distract? Does it break down? If so where and why?

**5 Did you like the poem?**

There is no wrong or right answer here, did you like it? If so, why? Why didn’t you like it?

**6 Can you relate to the poem?**

Does the poem remind you of anything that has happened to you? How does it make you feel?

**7 Compare and contrast**

Have you read similar poems? What is different? What is the same? Which poem was better and why?

**Contacts**

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