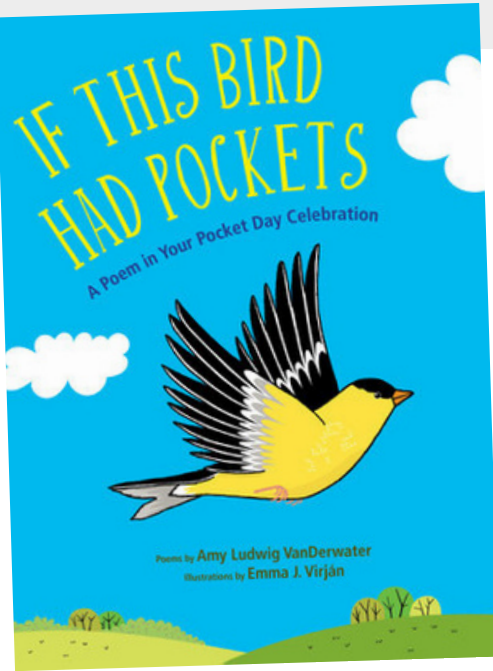


# A CCSS-NGSS aligned Text Set Companion for IF THIS BIRD HAD POCKETS: A POEM IN YOUR POCKET DAY CELEBRATION



An ideal gift for children who love animals, this picture book is a celebration of Poem in your Pocket Day and a charmingly illustrated collection of playful poems about 19 different creatures.

Fascinating information about the animals (yes, sea otters have pockets!) tucked into short, lively poems and bright, bold artwork make this collection perfect for National Poetry Month—or any day of the year.

In honor of Poem in Your Pocket Day, a child imagines the poems animals might carry in their pockets, if they had pockets. What would a hummingbird write? A fox? A sea otter? These poems capture the essences of animals furry, feathery and finny, exploring what makes each unique. Ruby-Throated Hummingbird sings with its wings, Red Fox's poem is a fiery tail flashing in the dark, and Sea Otter's poem is its secret pocket. Which poem will capture the heart of the child narrator? A poem about loving animals, of course!

Written by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater  
Illustrated by Emma J. Virján

Wordsong/Astra Books for Young Readers  
ISBN: 978-1635923865

Amy Ludwig VanDerwater is a celebrated author of a number of books for children and teachers. She received her MA from Teachers College, Columbia University and has taught writing for over twenty years. Blogging at The Poem Farm and Sharing Our Notebooks, Amy lives in Holland, NY with her family, pets, and books. Find her at [amyludwigvanderwater.com](http://amyludwigvanderwater.com) (website), [poemfarm.amylv.com](http://poemfarm.amylv.com) (blog), or [sharingournotebooks.com](http://sharingournotebooks.com) (blog).



Emma J. Virján is the author-illustrator of the beloved *Pig in a Wig* Book series – *What This Story Needs is a Pig in a Wig*, *What This Story Needs is a Hush and a Shush*, *What This Story Needs is a Munch and a Crunch*, *What This Story Needs is a Bang and a Clang* and *What This Story Needs is a Vroom and a Zoom*, and the early-reader series *Captain Cat*. Emma makes her home in Austin, TX, where she spends her days writing and drawing. Find her at her website [emmavirjan.com](http://emmavirjan.com).

## THEMATIC OVERVIEW

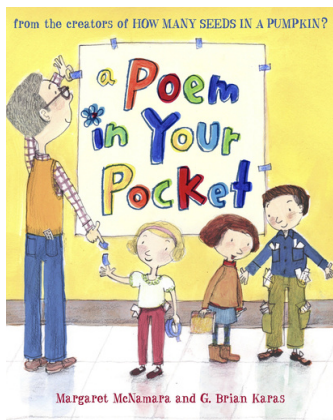
poetry || creative writing || imagination || creativity ||

National Poetry Month || Poem in Your Pocket Day || animal love || habitats || ecosystems || biomes || zoology || social emotional learning || self-acceptance || narrative nonfiction

## COMPREHENSION CONVERSATION

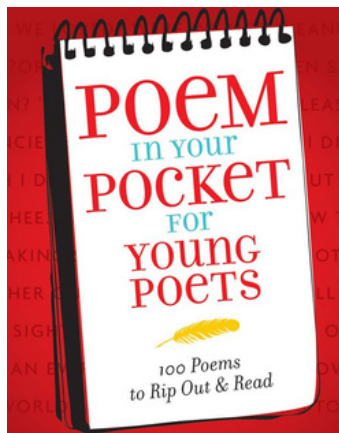
- Imagine if animals were able to write poetry. What might they say about themselves or the world in which they live?
- Consider the lessons we might learn if animals owned the ability to recall history, to express gratitude, or describe their most unique qualities.
- Write a short poem describing special features of your favorite animal. Fold your poem into a small square. Keep that folded treasure close by tucking it deep inside your pocket for safe keeping all day long.

# Text Pairings for IF THIS BIRD HAD POCKETS



## A Poem in Your Pocket by Margaret McNamara

A playful, child-friendly story set in the classroom, and poetry—from metaphors to acrostics to haiku—is the name of the game.



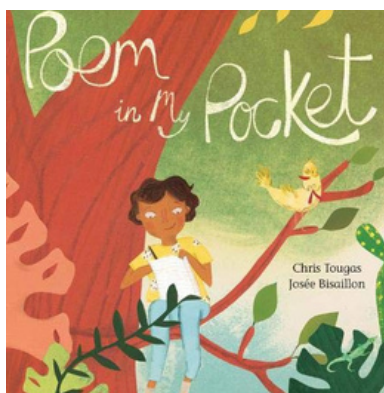
## Poem in Your Pocket for Young Poets by The Academy of American Poets

This book is presented in an innovative format and includes one hundred poems cleverly organized by theme. Foster the love of poetry during National Poetry Month, on Poem in Your Pocket Day, or in the classroom any day of the school year.



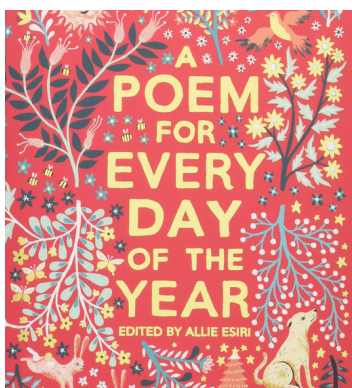
## Keep a Pocket in Your Poem: Classic Poems and Playful Parodies by J. Patrick Lewis

Thirteen classic poems by poets are paired with parodies that honor and play off of the original poems in a range of ways.



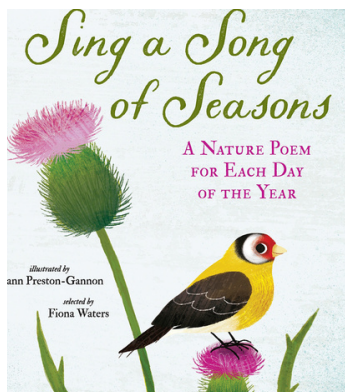
## Poem in My Pocket by Chris Tougas

In this charming picture book allegory of the creative writing process, happenstance and weather events symbolize the emotional ebb and flow of writing a poem.



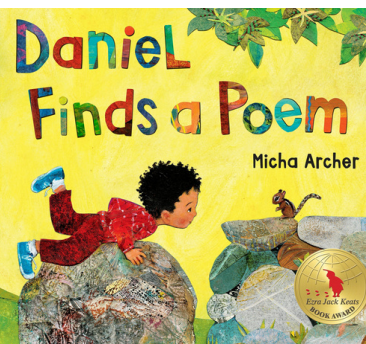
## A Poem for Every Day of the Year by Allie Esiri

A collection of 366 poems, one to share on every day of the year. These poems are thoughtful, inspiring, humbling, informative, quiet, loud, small, epic, peaceful, energetic, upbeat, motivating, and empowering!



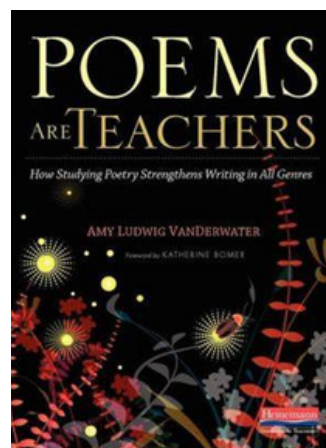
## Sing a Song of Seasons: A Nature Poem for Each Day of the Year by Nosy Crow

Filled with familiar favorites and new discoveries written by a wide variety of poets, this is the perfect book for children (and grown-ups!) to share at the beginning or the end of the day.



## Daniel Finds a Poem by Micha Archer

Stunning collage art full of rich color, glorious details, and a sense of wonder illustrate this delightful story celebrating the poetry found in the world around us.



## Poems Are Teachers: How Studying Poetry Strengthens Writing in All Genres by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater

Students learn how to replicate the craft techniques found in poetry to strengthen all writing, from fiction to opinion, from personal narrative to information.

### COMMON CORE STATE ANCHOR STANDARDS ALIGNMENT:

Reading: CCRA.RL.1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10

Speaking & Listening: CCRA.SL.1, 2, 4, 5, 6 Writing: CCRA.W.2, 3, 5

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS ALIGNMENT: 1-LS1-2, 2-LS4-1