

# COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY POETRY-BY-HEART CONTEST

## CONTEST

### Location

Students will be brought in small groups (10-15 students) to a designated classroom to perform their poems.

### Performance/ Judging

One of the contest coordinators will welcome the students and introduce the judges. There will be at least 2 performance judges and 1 accuracy judge/ prompter.

Students will take turns reciting their poem in front of the judges and students in their small group. If needed, they may ask for help from the prompter. After the recitation is complete, the student will return to their seat while the judges can finish their evaluations. This should only take about one minute.

After the group of students finish reciting their poems, all of the students will receive a participation prize, certificate, and be brought back to their classroom.

If not enough performance judges are available for live judging, some judging may take place by recordings. Student scores will be tabulated after all judging has taken place.

Student performances will be recorded using a school-based platform that is only viewable through Schoology or a private link.

Winners will be announced the week after the poetry contest has concluded.

## RULES

- Students must start their recitation by saying their name, the title of the poem and the poet's name.  
  
Ex. "My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I will be reciting \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_"
- Students must recite their poem. Poems cannot be sung.
- Students' recitation must be assessed according to the evaluation criteria, and students must be assigned an accuracy score.
- Poems must be memorized and recited as they appear in the Columbia Elementary Poetry-By-Heart selection list.
- Judges should not convene to discuss performances. Rankings will be based solely on the judges' submitted evaluation sheets.
- There will be one winner for each grade level.
- Scoring is cumulative. The score from all the judges added together will determine the winner. The same number of judges will be used for students in each grade group.
- In the event of a tie, the tied student with the highest overall performance score will win; if that also results in a tie, then the organizer will award the title to the student with the highest accuracy score.
- In order to be eligible as the grade level winner, students cannot have their parent or homeroom teacher judge their performance.

# COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY POETRY-BY-HEART CONTEST SCORE SHEET

NAME OF STUDENT

GRADE

TEACHER

NAME OF POEM



	DEVELOPING	SATISFACTORY	GOOD	EXCELLENT	OUTSTANDING
PHYSICAL PRESENCE	1	2	3	4	5
VOICE AND ARTICULATION	1	2	3	4	5
EVIDENCE OF UNDERSTANDING	1	2	3	4	5
INTERPRETATION	1	2	3	4	5
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	1	2	3	4	5

TOTAL SCORE

ACCURACY SCORE

FINAL SCORE

COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY POETRY-BY-HEART SCORING RUBRIC\*

	DEVELOPING	SATISFACTORY	GOOD	EXCELLENT	OUTSTANDING
PHYSICAL PRESENCE	Timid; unsure; eye contact and body language reflect nervousness	Body language and eye contact are at times unsure, at times confident	Comfortable; steady eye contact and confident body language	Poised; body language and eye contact reveal strong stage presence	Authoritative; body language and eye contact show compelling stage presence
VOICE AND ARTICULATION	Audible, but quiet; too loud; monotone; unevenly paced; affected tone	Clear; adequate intonation; even pacing	Clear; appropriate intonation and pacing	Very clear; crisp; effective use of volume, intonation, rhythm, and pacing	Very clear; crisp; mastery of rhythm and pace; skillful use of volume and intonation
EVIDENCE OF UNDERSTANDING	Doesn't sufficiently communicate meaning of poem	Satisfactorily communicates meaning of poem	Conveys meaning of poem well	Interprets poem very well for audience; nuanced	Masterfully communicates the thought and spirit of poem to the audience
INTERPRETATION	Poem is overshadowed by distracting gestures, facial expressions, or vocal inflections	Poem is neither overwhelmed nor enhanced by style of delivery	Poem is enhanced by style of delivery; any gestures, facial expressions, and movements are appropriate to poem	Style of delivery reflects precedence of poem; poem's voice is well conveyed	Style of delivery reflects internalization of poem; all gestures and movements feel essential to poem's success
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	Recitation has room for improvement	Sufficient recitation; lacks meaningful impact on audience	Enjoyable recitation; successfully delivers poem	Inspired performance shows grasp of recitation skills and enhances audience's experience of the poem	Captivating performance that is more than the sum of its parts; shows mastery of recitation skills

\*Scoring rubric is based on criteria used by Poetry in Voice of Canada.

COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY POETRY-BY-HEART ACCURACY SCORE SHEET

NAME OF CONTESTANT

GRADE

TEACHER

NAME OF POEM

**MAXIMUM SCORE (10 points)**

INACCURACY DEDUCTION \_\_\_\_\_ POINTS

PROMPT DEDUCTION \_\_\_\_\_ POINTS

**FINAL ACCURACY SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_ POINTS\*

\*LOWEST POSSIBLE SCORE IS 1 POINT

**MINOR INACCURACIES, RESULTING IN A 1 POINT DEDUCTION, INCLUDE:**

- confusing a pronoun (“he” instead of “she”)
- confusing an article (“a” instead of “the”)
- pluralizing a word or vice versa (“horses” instead of “horse”)
- replacing a word with a similar word (“jump” instead of “leap”)
- confusing the order of words (“love and joy” instead of “joy and love”)
- skipping a word
- repeating a word
- adding a word

**MAJOR INACCURACIES, RESULTING IN A LARGER DEDUCTION:**

- One line out of order -2 POINTS
- Repeating a line -2 POINTS
- Forgetting the title and author of the poem -3 POINTS
- Skipping one line/ skipping three or more words in the same line -5 POINTS
- Reversing two stanzas -5 POINTS
- Skipping one stanza -6 POINTS

**USE OF PROMPTER:**

Each time a student uses the prompter, 3 POINTS will be deducted from the final accuracy score.

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