

Reading poetry

The Rollercoaster Rider

Click Clack...We climb slowly to the peak of the monstrous metal mountain.

The grinding chain winds us as high as the heavenly summer clouds.

Whoosh...a massive plunge into a cavernous tunnel! I'm breathless,
I can't speak. I'm holding on tight!

Swish and gurgle...my stomach is churning.
My knuckles go white.

POP...my ears suffer as the wind rushes past my face as fast as a tornado.
As the gravity, takes hold and my eyes start to blur.

Scream... the riders are yelling as the first loop turns the planet upside down.

Thump ...my heart is pounding like a beatbox. We are rocking and rolling,
spinning and dropping.

Swish...we soar swiftly through the air, so weightless and free.
The final twist appears with fluorescent lights shining in cascading colours.

Phew! The ride ends but my love of roller coasters has begun.

Activity 1: Read the above poem.

Answer these questions:

Warming up*

1. Underline all the adjectives that you can find within the poem.
2. Use the online [dictionary](#) to check any words that you are unsure of.
3. Why does the poet describe the roller coaster as a '*monstrous metal mountain*? What image does this create?

Feeling more confident **

4. The poet repeats the 'm' sound, what type of figurative language example is this?
5. Read the third line, '*Whoosh... a massive plunge*',
Circle a synonym for the word plunge from the words below:
skip dive run fall
6. The fourth stanza opens with the word 'POP' written in capital letters, what effect does this create? Why did the poet choose to make the letters big?

Ready for a challenge ***

7. Why do you think the rider's '*knuckles go white*'?
8. Copy the simile the poet has used in the sixth stanza.
9. How does the roller coaster rider feel at the end of the poem?

Activity 2:

Read the poem again and complete the table below. An example of each

<u>Alliteration</u>	<u>Similes</u>	<u>Onomatopoeia</u>	Power words
Alliteration: when words start with the same sound within a phrase or sentence.	A simile: describes something by comparing it to something else , using like or as	Onomatopoeia is a word, which sounds like what it means. 'Thud', 'crash', 'bang' and 'buzz' are all examples	strong adjectives, (describing words)
high as the heavenly	as fast as a tornado	Click Clack	cavernous

Examples of figurative language features have been completed for you in green.

Activity 3:

Read the poem again, and draw all the images that come to your mind as you read each line.

For example the first line of the poem,

Click Clack... We climb slowly to the peak of the monstrous metal mountain.

Creates an image of the roller coaster ride being a big metal mountain, which the rider is slowly climbing. It is like a monster because it is

scary. It could also be described like a mountain because of its big size and shape.



How do words create images?

Choose your favourite line and draw the image for it.

Activity 4:

Think back to activity 2 and the figurative table that you completed. Use your knowledge to create a new sentence that you could add to each stanza of the poem, it must contain either an alliteration, onomatopoeia or a simile.

Activity 5:

Read the new version of the poem to a member of your family. Remember to use intonation and expression. Are you able use some actions as well?

Reading poetry - Answers

The Rollercoaster Rider

Click Clack...We climb **slowly** to the peak of the **monstrous** metal mountain.

The **grinding** chain winds us as **high** as the **heavenly** summer clouds.

Whoosh...a **massive** plunge into a **cavernous** tunnel! I'm breathless,
I can't speak. I'm holding on tight!

Swish and gurggle...my stomach is **churning**.

My knuckles go **white**.

POP...my ears suffer as the wind rushes past my face as **fast** as a tornado.
As the gravity, takes hold and my eyes start to **blur**.

Scream... the riders are yelling as the **first** loop turns the planet upside down.

Thump ...my heart is pounding like a beatbox. We are rocking and rolling,
spinning and dropping.

Swish...we soar swiftly through the air, so weightless and free.

The final twist appears with fluorescent lights **shining** in **cascading** colours.

Phew! The ride ends but my love of roller coasters has begun.

Activity 1: Read the above poem.

Answer the questions:

Warming up*

1. Underline all the adjectives that you can find within the poem.
2. Use the online [dictionary](#) to check any words that you are unsure of.
3. Why does the poet describe the roller coaster as a '**monstrous metal mountain**? What image does this create? **This is because the roller coaster looks scary like a monster and the size and shape is big like a mountain.**

Feeling more confident **

4. The poet repeats the 'm' sound, what type of figurative language example is this? *alliteration*
5. Read the third line, '*Whoosh... a massive plunge*'



Circle a synonym for the word plunge from the words below:

skip

dive

run

fall

6. The fourth stanza opens with the word 'POP' written in capital letters, what effect does this create? Why did the poet choose to make the letters big?

The poet could have chosen to write the letters POP in large letters because it shows the reader the extent of the loudness. It could also show that it happened suddenly and the sound was not expected. Capital letters also draw attention and are used to create effect.

Ready for a challenge ***

7. Why do you think the rider's '*knuckles go white*'?

This shows that the rider was holding on very tightly.

8. Copy the simile the poet has used in the sixth stanza.

My heart is pounding like a beatbox

9. How does the roller coaster rider feel at the end of the poem?

The rider feels relief that the ride has ended as the word 'phew' suggests but at the same time seems to be happy as the poem ends by stating 'my love of roller coasters has begun'.

Activity 2:

Read the poem again and complete the table below. An example of each figurative language feature has been completed for you in green.

<u>Alliteration</u>	<u>Similes</u>	<u>Onomatopoeia</u>	Power words
Alliteration: when words start with the same sound within a phrase or sentence.	A simile: describes something by comparing it to something else , using like or as	Onomatopoeia is a word, which sounds like what it means. 'Thud', 'crash', 'bang' and 'buzz' are all examples	strong adjectives, (describing words)
high as the heavenly	as fast as a tornado	Click Clack	cavernous
rocking and rolling	my heart is pounding like a beatbox	POP Swish Thump	monstrous
Swish...we soar swiftly rocking and rolling,	The grinding chain winds us as high as the heavenly summer clouds		cascading

Activity 3:

Read the poem again, and draw all the images that come to your mind as you read each line.

For example the first line of the poem,

Click Clack... We climb slowly to the peak of the monstrous metal mountain.

Creates an image of the roller coaster ride being a big metal mountain, which the rider is slowly climbing. It is like a monster because it is scary. It could also be described like a mountain because of its big size and shape.



How do words create images?

Choose your favourite line and draw the image for it.

Writers use descriptive words and phrases to help the reader feel like they're...well, wherever the writer wants them to be! Basically, the writer is trying to create a "mental image" for the reader through the words they choose.

Activity 4:

Think back to day 2 and the figurative table that you completed. Use your knowledge to create a new sentence that you can add to each stanza of the poem, it must contain either an alliteration, onomatopoeia or a simile.

So many possible answers!

How about, whoosh, crash or bang for onomatopoeia?

Or rickety roars for alliteration.

Activity 5:

Read the new version of the poem to a member of your family. Remember to use intonation and expression. Are you able use some actions as well?

Tweet a recording of you doing this on the schools Twitter account [here](#)