



Title: Where the Sidewalk Ends

Author: Shel Silverstein

In a classic collection of poems, readers are introduced to Paul Bunyan, the Invisibly Boy, the girls who ate a whale and so many more. Open the book to any page and find rhyming tales of fun, fantasy, and imagination. Matching illustrations keep children of all ages engaged. If you are a dreamer, come in!

Let's Talk

What is a poem? How is it different from other things you have read?

Can a poem be written about anything? Does it have to be true?

Do the pictures in the book help you enjoy the poem? Which one is your favorite?

Do many of these poems rhyme? Why is it interesting to read rhyming words? Can you rhyme?

Check out "The Fourth". Why does Shel Silverstein capitalize words like CRASH, BANG, and ZANG?

Try This

Take turns reading the favorite poems in the book to the rest of the group.

Have one person write a poem and draw a picture for it. Put them into a book, make copies and give them to everyone. Don't forget to have each author sign their work, or write anonymously.

Have one person say a word, the rest of the group takes turns naming words that rhyme. Write them down and make a poem from those words.

On page 107 there is a poem in the shape of a giraffe neck. Try to write one about a balloon, a stick or a kite using this style.

Explore More in the Library

Check him out on an ebook from the library!

Listen to Shel Silverstein read his own poems on CD.

Where the Sidewalk Ends (J CD 811.54 Silverstein)

Read another of his books.

A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein (J 811.54)

Everything on It: Poems and Drawings (J 811.54 Silverstein)

Learn about the author.

Meet Shel Silverstein (J 818.5409 Silverstein)

Enjoy other poems.

Read-aloud Poems edited by Gloria Hale (J 811.08 Read-aloud)

100 Great Poems for Boys edited by Leslie Pockell (J 808.1083)

Lunch Box Mail and Other Poems by Jenny Whitehead (J 811.6)

Love That Dog by Sharon Creech (J FICTION CREECH)