

# POETRY ANTHOLOGY

Dear Families,

The poems, songs, and rhymes in this book are a rich source of language, ideas, and imagery that will help your child use and enjoy oral and written language. Experiences with poetry help children become aware of the phonological system of language and provide a foundation for matching sounds with letters, letter clusters, and word parts. You can use poems, chants, and songs to help children:

- Listen for and identify rhyming words.
- Identify words with the same beginning, ending, or medial sound.
- Combine sounds to form words and check with the letters.
- Match sounds to letters in words.
- Divide words into separate sounds and match to letters.

This year we will be reading and singing along to various poems and rhymes in the classroom. Each week we will be adding a poem to our notebooks. Every Thursday please look for your child's Poetry Anthology to come home so that you and your child can read them together. It is okay to help your child with some of the words; they may not be able to read them on their own right away! He/she will memorize many, if all of the words/poems at first and will eventually begin to recognize letters and words as time progresses. Here are some other ideas when reading with your child:

- Talk about the ideas in the poem. Sometimes they can be acted out.
- Find new words that rhyme and create new silly rhyming words.
- Talk about words that have unusual or more than one meaning.
- Find words that begin with the same sound.
- Find words that have more than one syllable.
- Highlight Word Wall Words.
- HAVE FUN!

Anthologies need to be returned the following school day (Friday) so that we can use them at centers. At the end of the year your child will have a collection of poems that they will be able to read. Please take good care of this Poetry Anthology! They need to last us the whole year.

HAPPY READING!