

# Doggy Ditties from A to Z: Poetic Devices

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Welcome to *Doggy Ditties from A to Z*, a book of fun poems featuring dogs from each letter of the alphabet. Although the poems are quite simple, each rhyme contains examples of some common poetic devices. The poems are all quite short and keep children engaged and are a perfect tool to teach poetic devices to children.

- A Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Affenpinscher Alfie)  
Assonance (doubt about)
- B Limerick  
Alliteration (Boxer called Buddy; dug in the dirt)
- C Limerick style  
Alliteration (Champ the Chihuahua)  
Oxymoron (he is a tiny dog, but his name would suggest a big dog)
- D Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (dashing Dalmatian called Dot)  
Rhetorical question ('Have I counted them all?')  
Repetition (no, no)  
Assonance (got lots)
- E Limerick style  
Assonance (Setter Greta)  
Rhetorical question ('Well, wouldn't you?')
- F Rhyming couplets  
Repetition (Roxy the Foxy, at the beginning of each line; dig, dig, dig etc)  
Assonance (Roxy the Foxy)
- G Rhyming Couplets  
Alliteration (gentle giant; looks a little, drooling Dane)  
Oxymoron (gentle giant)  
Cliché (wouldn't hurt a fairy)  
Repetition (Dane)  
Imperative (changes from a description, to an instruction, to 'beware')
- H Limerick  
Assonance (Husky named Murray)  
Alliteration (favourite food)
- I Rhyming couplet  
Alliteration (Iris the Irish, Irish Iris, ranger Ronald)  
Assonance (Iris the Irish; hound around; Irish Iris)  
Variation (swapping Iris the Irish to Irish Iris)
- J Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Jazz the Japanese; blackest black; dashing dog)

- Simile (as dark as night)  
Consonance (purest white)
- K Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (cuddly King; door to Danny's Deli; canine Kelly). English is a funny language; it is the sound that makes it alliteration, not the letter  
Internal rhyme in the last line
- L Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Lou the lovely Labrador)  
Consonance (itching and she's scratching)  
Lots of verbs/actions to emphasise the problem  
Use of two different words with the same meaning, for emphasis
- M Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Malamute Midge)  
Rhetorical question (Will he go over and fall off the ridge?)  
Repetition (Malamute Midge at the beginning of several lines)  
Oxymoron (he is a big dog, but his name would suggest a little dog)
- N Rhyming couplets  
Simile (like a duck)
- O Rhyming couplets  
Consonance (warm farm)  
Not assonance (Olly the Old; warm farm) even though they look as if they should be. It is the sound that is important, not the letters  
'Muddle' is a more interesting way of saying mixture, and conveys the idea of a 'mess' like the hay  
Visual rhyme (warm farm)
- P Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Priscilla the Poodle; that there)  
Assonance (chance to prance; Lance from France)  
Rhetorical question (Who's that there...?)
- Q Rhyming couplets  
Assonance (Queensland Heeler Queenie)  
Alliteration (stubborn stinky)  
Rhetorical question ('but what happens when she shuts her eyes?')  
Irony (she ends up counting sheep)  
Cliché (counting sheep)
- R Rhyming couplets  
Assonance (solid dog)  
Repetition of and, separates the adjectives creating more emphasis; but having no 'and' in the last three lines, emphasises the instruction
- S Rhyming couplets  
Assonance (wrinkled skin)  
Alliteration (fine, folded face)

Simile (as clear as day)

- T Rhyming couplets  
The change in rhythm towards the end slows down the pace and makes you think what it would be like to be called a chipolata ...
- U Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Mastiff Marty; baked beans, burgers)  
Assonance (Marty and Barty quite farty)
- V Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Vic the Vizsla)  
Repetition (sometimes a river, sometimes a lake)
- W Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (Wanda the Whippet; wiry whippet will win)  
Rhetorical question ('who'd have thought she'd be so speedy?')
- X Rhyming couplets  
Alliteration (rather rude)  
Poetic Licence ('bod' not a real word)  
Addressing the audience ('and I didn't make this up')  
Repetition of 'name' emphasises how weird the name is
- Y Rhyming couplets  
Contrast - small dog, big personality
- Z Limerick  
Assonance (trim him)  
Onomatopoeia (snip-snip-snappy)

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