Exploring poetry with children has many benefits!

- It’s FUN
- Builds vocabulary and language fluency
- Helps children learn how words are divided into segments
- Stimulates creativity and thinking
- Encourages children to play with words
- Can be easier to read (or write) than a paragraph or whole book, boosting confidence
- Provides a way to express feelings
- Builds memory abilities

Enjoy these benefits as you play with words with your children!

Etelephony
by Laura E. Richards

Once there was an elephant,
Who tried to use the telephant—
No! No! I mean an elephone
Who tried to use the telephone—
(Dear me! I am not certain quite
That even now I’ve got it right.)
H owe’er it was, he got his trunk
Entangled in the telephunk;
The more he tried to get it free,
The louder buzzed the telephee—
(I fear I’d better drop the song
Of elephop and telephong!)

Buttercups and Daisies
by Mary Howitt

Buttercups and daisies—
Oh the pretty flowers,
Coming ere the springtime
To tell of sunny hours.
While the trees are leafless,
While the fields are bare,
Buttercups and daisies
Spring up here and there.

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The Purple Cow
by Gelett Burgess

I never saw a purple cow,
I hope to never see one,
But I can tell you, anyhow,
I’d rather see than be one!

Caterpillar
by Christina Rossetti

Brown and furry
Caterpillar in a hurry,
Take your walk
To the shady leaf, or stalk,
Or what not,
Which may be the chosen spot.
No toad spy you,
Hovering bird of prey pass by you;
Spin and die,
To live again a butterfly.