

Ospreys in verse – Ideas for English teachers

There are many forms of poetry and verse.

Using the Osprey as a subject will offer many ways to explore this creative medium.

1. Introduction

A photo of an Osprey <https://www.lrwt.org.uk/rutland-ospreys> See the gallery in the “Osprey Story” (Pictures)

Video of an Osprey activity <http://www.lrwt.org.uk/osprey-videos> (Videos)

- Catching a fish (very dynamic)
- The fish escapes
- Feeding their young
- First flight
- Arriving with a fish at the nest

2. Discussion

Build up a word list on the board of words that could be used for what they see.

An opportunity here to show how words are used as **nouns verbs adverbs** and **adjectives**

3. Poetry and Verse

Discuss poetry types. Verse patterns, rhyming and non-rhyming.

Using a selected type the aim is to produce an osprey poem based on what they have seen.

There are many types of poetry and verse.

Try this link <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/info/other/poetry-terms>

Here are a TWO examples of an osprey poem.

Haiku

Line 1 – 5 syllables

Line 2 – 7 syllables

Line 3 – 5 syllables

Osprey falls feet first

Plunge into the water

Talons grasp the fish



Limerick

Lines 1 and 2 rhyme (8 syllables)

Lines 3 and 4 rhyme (6 syllables)

Line 5 rhymes with line 1

Fish are all that an osprey will eat

And to catch them it has special feet

With a swivelling toe

“Zygodactylic” you know

And scales for good grip, that’s so neat.