Poetic devices...

**Similes:** figures of speech that compares two unlike things, using the words *like* or *as.*

"His feet were as big as boats."

**Alliteration:** the repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words.

"Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers."

**Metaphor:** a figure of speech that compares two unlike things directly, without the use of *like* or *as.*

"Her hair is silk."

**Personification:** assigning human qualities to non-human things.

"The tropical storm slept for two days."

**Onomatopoeia:** words that imitate sounds.

"Boom. Gurgle. Plink."

**Hyperbole:** an expression of exaggeration.

"I nearly died laughing."

**Symbolism:** using an object to represent an idea. A symbol means what it is and also something more.

Lions often symbolize royalty.

**Puns:** words with a humorous double meaning, a "play on words."

"A dog not only has a fur coat but also pants."

**Idioms:** expressions that have a meaning apart from the meanings of the individual words.

"It's raining cats and dogs."

**Foot:** the time period into which the beat of the poetic line is divided. A foot is made up of several syllables, some long and some short.

**Meter:** refers to how the feet are put together to form lines of poetry. The combinations of long and short syllables give poetry a musical feel.

**Rhythm:** the pattern of long and short syllables in a poetic line. In modern poetry, some words receive greater vocal emphasis than others.
Lyrics: what poets write, the actual words used to form the framework of rhythm and meter.

Mood: the overall feeling the poem creates. Mood, or tone, for example, can be playful, sad, lonely, angry or joyful.

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