



# Language Arts Week 26 Activity Sheet

## Poem Selection

Read through the poems that follow and select one you would like to write a parody of. If none of the poems seem to grab you, try one of the ones in the list of other suggestions.

### “Five Little Chickens”

Said the first little chicken  
With a queer little squirm,  
“Oh, I wish I could find  
A fat little worm.”

Said the second little chicken,  
With an odd little shrug,  
“Oh, I wish I could find a fat little  
bug.”

Said the third little chicken,  
With a sharp little squeal,  
“Oh, I wish I could find  
Some nice yellow meal.”

Said the fourth little chicken,  
With a sigh of grief,  
“Oh I wish I could find  
A little green leaf!”

Said the fifth little chicken,  
With a faint little moan,  
“Oh, I wish I could find  
A wee gravel-stone.”

“Now, see here,” said the mother,  
From the green garden-patch,  
“If you want any breakfast,  
Just come here and SCRATCH.”

### “Old Mother Hubbard”

Went to the cupboard  
To get her poor dog a bone:  
The cupboard was bare,  
And so the poor dog had none.

She went to the baker’s  
To buy him some bread,  
But when she came back  
The poor dog was dead.

She went to the joiner’s  
To buy him a coffin,  
But when she came back  
The poor dog was laughing

She took a clean dish  
To get him some tripe  
But when she came back  
He was smoking a pipe!

by Sarah Catherine Martin, 1768–1826

### “The Little Ladybird”

Lady-bird, lady-bird! Fly away home!  
The field-mouse has gone to her nest,  
The daisies have shut up their sleepy red eyes,  
And the birds and the bees are at a rest.

Lady-bird, lady-bird! Fly away home!  
The glow-worm is lighting her lamp,  
The dew’s falling fast, and her fine speckled wings  
Will flag with the close-clinging damp.

Lady-bird, lady-bird! Fly away home!  
The fairy bells tinkle afar!  
Make haste, or they’ll catch you, and harness you fast  
With a cobweb, to Oberon’s car.

by Caroline Southey, 1787–1854

### Other titles to consider:

- “Silver” by Walter de la Mare
- “The Mountain and the Squirrel” by Ralph Waldo Emerson
- “The Four Friends” by A.A. Milne
- “Escape at Bedtime” by Robert Louis Stevenson

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## D: Write a Parody

Take your chosen poem and write a parody of it on a separate sheet of paper. As you do, try to keep the structure of the phrases and sentences the same as the original poem. Keep it funny and light-hearted. After you are finished, share your parody with others, so they can enjoy it too. If you have trouble getting started, review the example from Day 3.