

## Activity 8: Let's look at a model poem



Below is a poem written by Pie Corbett using *The City of Silence* game called *The Cave of Curiosity*. It is a great example of a poem using a repetitive pattern; this time he starts each verse with the phrase: *In the cave of curiosity*. We are going to look closely at this poem and write some responses.

★ **Start by reading the poem out loud a few times. You can also listen to a reading of the poem here <https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/city>**

### The Cave of Curiosity

In the cave of curiosity, I created  
an angry ant ambling along,  
a terrified tarantula tickling a tornado  
and a curious computer calling cautiously to the King.

In the cave of curiosity, I created  
the sound of silence closing its lips,  
a hummingbird's wings flickering,  
as the sea silently scrapes the pebbles and ten tired lorries trundle by.

In the cave of curiosity, I created  
the touch of smooth stones from the summer beach,  
the stickiness of honey on a fingertip  
and the heat from a teaspoon as it stirs my morning tea.

In the cave of curiosity, I created  
the coldness of frost as it freckles the windowpane,  
the sharpness of a saw as it crunches through wood  
and the sadness of a tear as it trickles down a cheek.

In the cave of curiosity, I captured  
the moon's cold gleam imprisoned in a box,  
the joy of a merry-go-round as it spins like a feral ferris wheel  
and the force of a rainbow as it dazzles the sky with a smile that stuns.

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★ Now let's look at the poem closely and try to respond to what we have read.

1) Which is your favourite word, line or verse? And why?

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2) Which line would you like to change? What would you change it to?

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3) Which part of the poem did you find scariest, saddest or most unusual?

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4) Find a part of the poem that uses alliteration really effectively.

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5) Write Pie a short piece of feedback about his poem. It could follow this structure: 1. Give some praise 2. Offer some advice 3. Ask a question



★ Now have a go at responding to Pie's poem.

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