



Open to Year 2 - Year 6

Online Event: Friday 3 October 2025 9.15am Years 2 & 3 10.45am Years 4, 5 & 6

DEADLINE

Wednesday 1 October 2025

Competition open to ISA Members' schools only Visit the ISA website for more information isaschools.org.uk | isaarts@isaschools.org.uk



ISA Write Along Poetry Workshop 2026 Guidelines



Celebrate National Poetry Day in style with a free live lesson from acclaimed children's poet and National Poetry Day ambassador <u>Simon Mole</u>. Your class will join thousands of other children across the country to play some fun (and quite silly) games, and create their own poetic masterpieces.

Simon will be running a brand new workshop, inspired by this year's National Poetry Day theme of Play.

Workshop details

Open to Year 2 to Year 6. Schools can register as many classes as they wish.

Registration for the workshop must be completed via the form here on the ISA website by Wednesday 1 October 2025 at the latest.

The workshop will be held online on , please find the times for your year groups below:

- 9.15am 10am Years 2 & 3
- 10.45am 11.35am Years 4, 5 & 6

Try out this fun video lesson from Simon as a taster to get your class excited ahead of the event:

- Yrs 2 & 3 try this: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://watch?v="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v="https://ww
- Yrs 4 & 5 try this: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3FZyXFS6bU
- Yr 6 try this: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7bmeqJ wXM

Tips from Simon to help you get the most out of the lesson

All classes will be muted for the majority of the event, with a staff member sending questions or suggestions via the chat function on Zoom. This interactive element will be a big part of reinforcing that the children are part of a bigger group experience with other schools around the country – so do please use the chat when you can!

Simon will start off with a couple of games and activities to get warmed up and build the key skills you will need for the lesson. He will then take the group through a guided step by step tutorial to write a poem.

On occasions he will ask if any schools want to offer a spoken contribution, or perhaps share a favourite line or two from one of the poems – he will do this with enough warning so any classes that want to can let him know in the chat, and then organise themselves so a child is near enough to the mic and camera to share an idea/question/poem.

In online workshops like these, it is not always the case that children finish their poems completely by the end of the session. We go for a short sharp burst to get the heart or the start of a poem on the page, and then they may take further time once the class is over to finish their writing without the screen on.

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Some children might prefer to work in pairs or groups – this can be fun, provided they're willing to share control over the choices about their poem! Classes may choose to write 1 poem as a whole class to minimise the amount of individual scribing that is required. There will be an additional document sent out to all registered staff to aid younger groups or reluctant writers.

If you have any questions, please contact isaarts@isaschools.org.uk