

Years 3 and 4;

Thursday 3rd October is National Poetry Day. It is a chance for us all to get involved in the pleasure of poetry. This year's theme is 'Counting'.

Read (or listen to it being read), the poem below. It is a 'Paeon' (pronounced pea-un), which is a Greek term for a creative work expressing enthusiastic praise. Then, have a go at answering the questions below.

If you're listening to the poem being read, try closing your eyes and imagine the imagery being described in the poem.



Paeon (or Eleven Uses for a Garden Pea)

1. Frog football.
2. One-third replacement for a miniature traffic light.
3. Temporary emerald for edible ring.
4. Environmentally-friendly clown's nose.
5. Ocean-free planet.
6. False eye for short-sighted lizard.
7. Nostril filler.
8. Spiller of a perfume fresher than newly-mown grass.
9. Cannonball for the Grasshopper Army (THEY'RE COMING).
10. Pesky tester of princesses.
11. Trainee lime.



Paeon (or Eleven Uses for a Garden Pea)

By poet Kate Wakeling ©

From Cloud Soup by Kate Wakeling, illustrated by Elina Brasliņa, Otter-Barry Books



How does the title link to the poem?



Why do you think the poet chose a garden pea as the subject?

Why do you think she wrote 11 reasons rather than a rounded 10?

Of all the uses for the pea, which one sticks most in your mind?

Why do you think this is?

Choose your favourite image from the poem and create an illustration to bring it to life.

Challenge;

Think about the weird, wonderful and funny uses for an ordinary object in life, such as a stick, leaf, orange, cardboard tube, pen, pencil, scarf or glove. Use the sentence 'this is not a..... it is a.....' to help you make up your own Paean poem.

Eg; 'This is not a glove, it is a poor, injured spider'

Let your imagination run wild and be as creative or silly as you like, to make your reader laugh! Have fun!