

# LESSON PLAN

## ENGLISH - ACROSTIC POEMS



**Length of lesson:** 50 minutes. Could be completed over two lessons.

### Lesson objectives:

To complete an acrostic poem based on Africa and farming.

To learn how to plan, draft and finalise their work.

### Lesson outcomes:

**All** students will be able to complete a simple acrostic poem.

**Most** students will be able to use full sentences.

**Some** students will be able to use rhyming words in their poem.

### Preparation:

- One copy of Rehema's story per child
- One set of new vocabulary flash cards per child or per table
- One welly worksheet per child

### Starter/warm up:

Explain to the class that they will be reading a story about a girl who lives in Africa. They will hear about her day. Ask them to think about how her day might be different from their own.

### Whole class teaching:

Read Rehema's story together. Ask some students to read a section of Rehema's story aloud. Use the flashcards to look at new words and explain what they are. Perhaps ask children what they think certain words mean, looking at the context of the story.

Explain how poetry differs from stories in that it can be more creative. Not all poems have to rhyme, such as acrostic poems. Tell students they will be drafting their own acrostic poems based on Rehema's story.

### Independent work:

Tell students to think about Rehema's story and any other information they know about farming and Africa. Ask them to write down ideas for a poem in their workbooks. Use the letters "FARM AFRICA" as a starting point—tell children to think of words that begin with those letters.

Students can then begin to formulate their ideas into sentences. Lower ability children can use simple sentences or single words.

Once students have ideas that they are happy with, ask them to read through their poem and see if it makes sense. Explain again about acrostic poems and that poetry doesn't have to read like a story, but that it should still paint a picture in the mind of the reader. Once students are happy with their poems, ask them to write their final draft on to the welly boot worksheet.

**Plenary:**

Ask children to say a sentence aloud, using new words they have learnt. These could be sentences from their poems. Create a wall display of students' poems.

# REHEMA'S STORY

Rehema is 7 years old. She lives in Tanzania. Her family are farmers.

Rehema gets up at 5 o'clock. She has a wash and gets dressed, and then heads out into the fields with her mum and dad. The sun is just coming up when Rehema starts work. She uses a hoe to help her mum dig the land, and then she sows some seeds.



At 7 o'clock, Rehema begins the hour-long walk to school. Rehema's school is called Gedbung school. Farm Africa helped build a chicken shed at the school and gave them ten chickens and three cockerels. Rehema's teacher is called Mr Utange. He teaches Rehema and the other children how to look after the chickens and stop them getting ill.

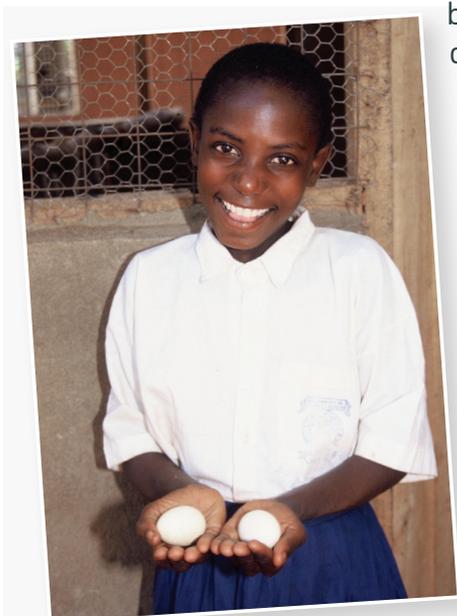
At lunch time, Rehema and her friends eat maize and beans. Then, after lunch, Mr Utange teaches the class how to mix the chickens' manure with the soil to make the soil richer – which helps plants grow big and healthy.

When Rehema gets home from school just after 4 o'clock, she tells her mum and dad all about what she learnt. Her dad says that from now on he will use the manure from their two chickens and their goat to make the soil better in their fields. That way, they will have better harvests.

Next Rehema goes with her mother to the river, which is one mile away. They collect water in plastic jerry cans and walk home carrying the cans on their heads. She is very good at balancing the can and no water splashes over the side.

When Rehema gets home, she helps cook dinner. She has a dish made of maize which looks like mashed potato. After dinner, she helps around the house and looks after her younger brother and sister. When it gets dark, the family finish work for the day and Rehema does her homework by candle light, then she says goodnight and goes to bed.

Rehema dreams that her family's crops grow and grow overnight, and she is dancing happily with her friends among the tall, healthy plants.



**F  
A  
R  
M  
  
A  
F  
R  
I  
C  
A**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_**

# Cut out and fold vocabulary flashcards

Use one set per child or per table.

## Jerry can



## Hoe



## Maize



## Crops



## Harvest

