

Note to teachers

We have included the following poems we came across while researching Maggie's "You Must be Choking". Some of the poems have a suggested activity others do not. We hope you share some of these poems with your students and enjoy. If you run across other poems, new activities or make up some of your own please do not hesitate to share them with us.

Greenhouse Effect

All those gases,
Rattle in my brain,
Oxides, methane-
Driving me insane.

Why does my fifth grade teacher,
Torture me this way?
Got to learn those gases' names,
By the end of day.

They're really quite important,
To our planet's atmosphere.
For if they multiply too much,
Earth's protection disappears!

All those oxides,
Spewed by factories,
Are then carried world wide
On a gentle breeze.

But eating at the ozone,
Is what these gases do
Then our planet warms right up
And that's a bug-a-boo.

Fossil fuel burning
Has really got to go
We have to find some other ways
To break this status quo.

Polar ice caps dripping,
Instead of solid ice,
Causing seas to rise right up -
That isn't very nice!

Wetlands and farmlands
Will soon become too dry
Now I know why my teach says
We cannot just stand by.

Wind and solar power -
Those gases do not make
Let's look at some alternatives
For planet Earth's sake.

So, I will learn my oxides,
Methane, hydrocarbons, too
Then maybe I can help the earth-
It's really overdue!

Ann Hart

Suggested Activity: Rap it!

Other suggested poems:

Tree Climbing by Kathleen Fraser.
20th Century Children's Poetry Treasures.
Selected by Jack Prelutsky and Alfred A. Knopf.
<http://www.randomhouse.com/kids>

Trees by Harry Beh.
20th Century Children's Poetry Treasures.
Selected by Jack Prelutsky and Alfred A. Knopf.
<http://www.randomhouse.com/kids>

Prayer of the Good Green Boy by Judith Viorst
Sad Underwear and other Complications.
Atheneum Books for Young Readers.
Imprint of Simon and Schuster.

Time to Plant Trees by James Hayford
Knock at a Star.
X.J. Kennedy and Dorothy M. Kennedy
Little, Brown and Company.

RAINFOREST by Judith Wright
Classic Poems to Read Aloud
Selected by James Berry.
Kingfisher. Tree.
Big Bang Boing by Douglas Florian.