

Worlds of Words 2026

Global Poetry Collections

<i>Title and author</i>	Level Info	Genre Date	Global Context	Themes/Plot
Grades 1-5				
<i>African Acrostics</i> , Avis Harley	40 pp	Info 2012	Namibia	Poems written in acrostics along with photographs of animals from Namibia to capture each animal's unique qualities.
<i>Animal Poems of the Iguazu</i> , Francisco Alarcon	30 pp	Info 2014	Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay	Bilingual English/Spanish poems of animals found in the rainforest of Iguazu National Park
<i>Aqui era el Paraíso/Here Was Paradise</i> . Humberto Ak'abal & Amelia Lau Carling	167 pp	COL 2021	Maya Guatemala Tr	A collection of poetry by Maya poet about the vanished world of his childhood in a Maya village in Guatemala on children, family, animals, ghosts, fields and rains, poverty and death. Bilingual.
<i>Awesome Earth: Concrete Poems</i> , Joan Graham & T. Garcia	32 pp	Poetry 2025	Global	Concrete poems in vibrant artwork that celebrates the many shapes and forms of Earth, such as caves, canyons, volcanos, and archipelagoes
<i>Chinese and English Nursery Rhymes</i> , Faye-Lynn Wu	33 pp	Rhymes 2018	China	A collection of nursery rhymes in English and simplified Chinese (pinyin), along with a CD
<i>The City Sings Green</i> , Erica Silverman & Ginnie Hsu	32 pp	Poetry 2024	Global	Poetry on global efforts toward environmental stewardship and revitalization – each poem is a close observation of a specific ecological problem and solution. Also includes a brief info section on each one.
<i>Courage Out Loud</i> , Joseph Coelho & Daniel Gray-Barnett	32 pp	Poetry 2023	UK	25 poems in a variety of poetry styles that encourage exploring emotions through poetic voice. Includes prompts to write own poetry.

<i>Dear Wandering Wildebeest</i> , Irene Lathan	33 pp	Info 2014	Kenya	Poems in different styles about animals visiting a Kenyan watering hole with additional info.
<i>Delicious! Poems Celebrating Street Food Around the World</i> , Julie H. Larios & Julie Paschkis	32 pp	Info 2021	Global	Collection of poems about street food and food trucks around the world, including New York City, Mumbai, Beijing, and many other cities. Mexico, Indonesia, South Korea, Greece, Senegal, China, Israel, Morocco, Australia, Russia, Peru, and India.
<i>Echo Echo: Reverso Poems about Greek Myths</i> , Marilyn Singer	32 pp	Myth 2016	Greece	Collection of short poems which, when reversed, provide new perspectives on Greek myths.
<i>Every Month is a New Year: Celebrations around the World</i> , Marilyn Singer	32 pp	Info 2018	Global	Collection of original poems about New Year celebrations throughout the year around the world. Greetings in many languages and brief info.
<i>A Full Moon is Rising</i> , Marilyn Singer	32 pp	Myth 2011	Global	Poems about events and beliefs involving the full moon, reflecting traditions from multiple cultures
<i>HaiCuba = HaiKuba</i> , Carlos Pintado & Juan Colsa. Lawrence Schimel, Tr.	32 pp	Haiku 2024	Cuba Spanish Tr	Cuba's culture, people and natural world are celebrated in bilingual haiku in Spanish and English
<i>Home</i> , Isabelle Simler	32 pp	Poetry 2024	Global French Tr	27 poems that look inside the dwellings of unusual animals through their perspectives. Highly textured, jewel-toned illustrations.
<i>I Hear the Trees</i> , Zaro Weil & Junli Song	189 pp	2025 COL	UK	Poems on sensory experiences with nature and touch on a range of experiences and many different topics.
<i>If I Could Choose a Best Day: Poems of Possibility</i> , Irene Latham, Charles Waters, Olivia Sua	53 pp	2025 COL	US/UK	30 poems that start with the word "if" and imagine the possibilities the gift of if can hold. Cut-paper and painted mosaic illustrations.

<i>Leave a Message in the Sand</i> , Bibi Dumon Tak	32 pp	COL 2020	Global Dutch Tr	Humorous poems about giraffes, bongos, and other creatures with hooves from around the world. Free verse with info at the end.
<i>Niños: Poems for the Lost Children of Chile</i> , María José Ferrada & María E. Valdez	76 pp	Poetry COL 2021	Chile Tr	Collection explores the hopes of 34 children disappeared and killed during Pinochet's regime in Chile. One poem per child.
<i>Out There in the Wild</i> , Nicola Davies, Dom Conlon, James Carter, & Diana Catchpole	180 pp	2023	UK	Three British poets celebrate the natural world, ranging from birds, beasts, and our place in nature. Linocut illustrations.
<i>Poems for Every Season</i> , Bette Wesera & Henriette Boeendans	32 pp	2026	Dutch Tr	Poems on changing seasons with 13 poems of different poetic structures. Combines poetry and nature Woodcut illustrations.
<i>Poems to Dream Together</i> , Francisco Alarcon	32 pp	2011	Global	Bilingual English/Spanish of short poems of peace, family, and community among children of all cultures
<i>Songs in the Shade of the Cashew and Coconut Trees</i> , Nathalie Soussana	32 pp	Lullabies Rhymes 2019	Caribbean W. Africa	Collection of lullabies and nursery rhymes from West Africa and the Caribbean
<i>The Star Whale</i> , Nicola Davis & Petr Horacek	32 pp	2023	Global	40 poems written and paintings that celebrate our world and the animals and birds found in different parts of the world.
<i>Summoning the Phoenix</i> , Emily Jiang	32 pp	2014	China	Poems about children playing Chinese musical instruments along with info on those instruments.
<i>Tamalitos: Un Poema para cocinar</i> , Jorge Argueta	32 pp	2017	Mexico	Bilingual poem about making tamalitos, based on Indigenous traditions from Mexico. See also <i>Arroz con Leche</i> , a bilingual poem book about making rice pudding based on Latin American traditions and <i>Salsa</i> , a bilingual poem book about Mexican traditions of making salsa.

<i>Time for Haiku</i> , J.N. Santaaulalia & Luciano Lozano	32 pp	2026	Spanish Tr (Catalan)	Poetic journey through the seasons through 50 original haiku and Japanese-inspired illustrations. Back matter with info on haiku.
<i>Under the Silver Moon</i> , Pamela Dalton	32 pp	Lullabies 2017	Global	Collection of classic lullabies, songs and poetry about the night from around the world. Cut-paper illustrations.
<i>Wild Brunch: Poems about How Creatures Eat</i> , David Harrison & Giles Laroche	32 pp	2024	Global	Poems on the different ways that animals eat, focuses on both how and why they eat wat they eat.
<i>You Are the Loveliest</i> , Hans Hagen & Marit Tornqvist	32 pp	Poems	Netherlands Tr	A translated book of poems for children to explore life, love, and feeling from a child's perspective.
Grades 6-12				
<i>19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East</i> , Naomi Shihab Nye	142 pp	2005	Middle East	A collection of poems by Nye in which she examines life in the Middle East from her perspective as an Arab-American
<i>Book of Questions/Libro de las preguntas</i> , Pablo Neruda & Paloma Valdivia	32 pp	Poem 2022	Chile	70 questions from Neruda's poem of 320 questions are gorgeously illustrated and woven together by theme that invite readers to reflect on the mysteries of nature. Bilingual
<i>Canciones</i> , Federico Garcia Lorca & Tobias Tak	157 pp	Poetry GR 2021	Spain Tr	Illustrated collection of poems in English and Spanish by one of Spain's foremost cultural and literary figures from the early 1900s.
<i>Carry On: Poetry by Young Immigrants</i> , Roge	32 pp	Poetry 2021	Canada Global French Tr	Poetry collection that pairs expressive portraits with poems by immigrant newcomers to Canada. Reflections on leaving behind loved ones and adapting to a new culture.

<i>Ink Knows No Borders: Poems of the Immigrant and Refugee Experience</i> , Patrice Vecchione	183 pp	Memoir 2019	Global	A collection of 64 poems in a variety of forms by poets who are immigrants and refugees themselves about tough topics including racism, displacement, assimilation, and resilience.
<i>The Ode to the Goddess of the Luo River</i> , Luying Ye	32 pp	Ancient poem 2020	China Tr	Adaptation of an ancient poem by Cao Zhi (220-280 CE) about doomed love between the earthly and heavenly. Lavish illustrations and 4 gatefold page spreads.
<i>Requiem: Poems of the Terezin Ghetto</i> , Paul Janeczko	102 pp	Narrative 2011	Czech	Poems describe experiences of prisoners in the concentration camp, Terezin. Written as personal narratives based on oral histories and diaries with artwork from inmates.
<i>Somebody Give This Heart a Pen</i> , Sophia Thakur.	99 pp	2020	UK	A British multiracial performance artist reflects on coming into one's own in free-form poems arranged in sections around the processes of the heart in growing, waiting, breaking, and growing again.
<i>This Same Sky: A Collection of Poems from Around the World</i> , Naomi Shihab Nye	212 pp	1996	Global, Tr	Anthology of poetry from 68 countries and 129 poets to celebrate the humans and animals who inhabit the world. Translated from many languages.
<i>The Tree is Older Than You: A Bilingual Gathering of Poems and Stories from Mexico</i> , Naomi Shihab Nye	111 pp	1998	Mexico	A collection of poems, short stories, and artwork by Mexican writers and artists, includes some from Mayan peoples. Bilingual

Tr = translated from that language and country into English

8/19/26