

26.2.21

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:47 AM

**TBQ: Can I preparing poems to perform, showing intonation, tone and volume?**

This week you have been learning our poem 'Last Night, I Saw the City Breathing'. Today you are going to perform this poem.

You also need to make sure you are performing with intonation, tone and volume.

<https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/poem/last-night-i-saw-the-city-breathing/>

Listen to this clip. What do you notice about the person who is reading the poem?

Challenge:

Perform the poem off by heart. See how far you can get through the poem, remembering the key points on sharing poetry with an audience.



Remember too:

**To create the mood  
try to vary**

- voices  
group/solo/pair/boys/girls
- pace  
quick/slow/dramatic pause
- volume  
soft/loud/explosive
- expression  
(think about the meaning).

**Can you also use**

- movement, gesture, mime?
- music or sound effects?

Last Night, I Saw the City Breathing

Last night, I saw the City breathing

Great Gusts of people,

Rushing in and

Puffing out

Of Station's singing mouths

Last night, I saw the City laughing,

Take-Aways got the giggles,

Cinemas split their sides,

And Living Rooms completely creased themselves!

Last night, I saw the City dancing.

Shadows were cheek to cheek with brick walls,

Trains wiggled their hips all over the place,

And the trees  
in the breeze,  
Put on a show for an audience of windows!  
Last night, I saw the city starving,  
Snaking Avenue smacked her lips  
And swallowed seven roundabouts!  
Fat office blocks got stuffed with light  
And gloated over empty parking lots.  
Last night, I saw the City crying.  
Cracked windows poured falling stars  
And the streets were paved with mirrors.  
Last night, I saw the City sleeping  
Roads night-dreamed,  
Street Lamps quietly boasted,  
*'When I grow up, I'm going to be a star!'*  
And the Wind,  
Like a cat,  
Snoozed in the nooks of roofs.