

This week we are learning all about shape poems.

These are poems written in the shape of the poem's subject. For example, a poem about a cat might be written in the shape of a cat.

Here's an introductory video about shape poems.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Zc0tBtotrM>

Calligrams

A calligram is another word for a shape poem, where the design and layout of the letters creates a visual image related to the meaning of the words themselves. A calligram can be a whole poem, but it can also just be a phrase, or even a single word.

For example, the word crinkly can be written so that the letters look crinkly!

crinkly

Here are some more examples of single word calligrams. Can you spot how the layout/design is related to the meaning of the word?

Monday



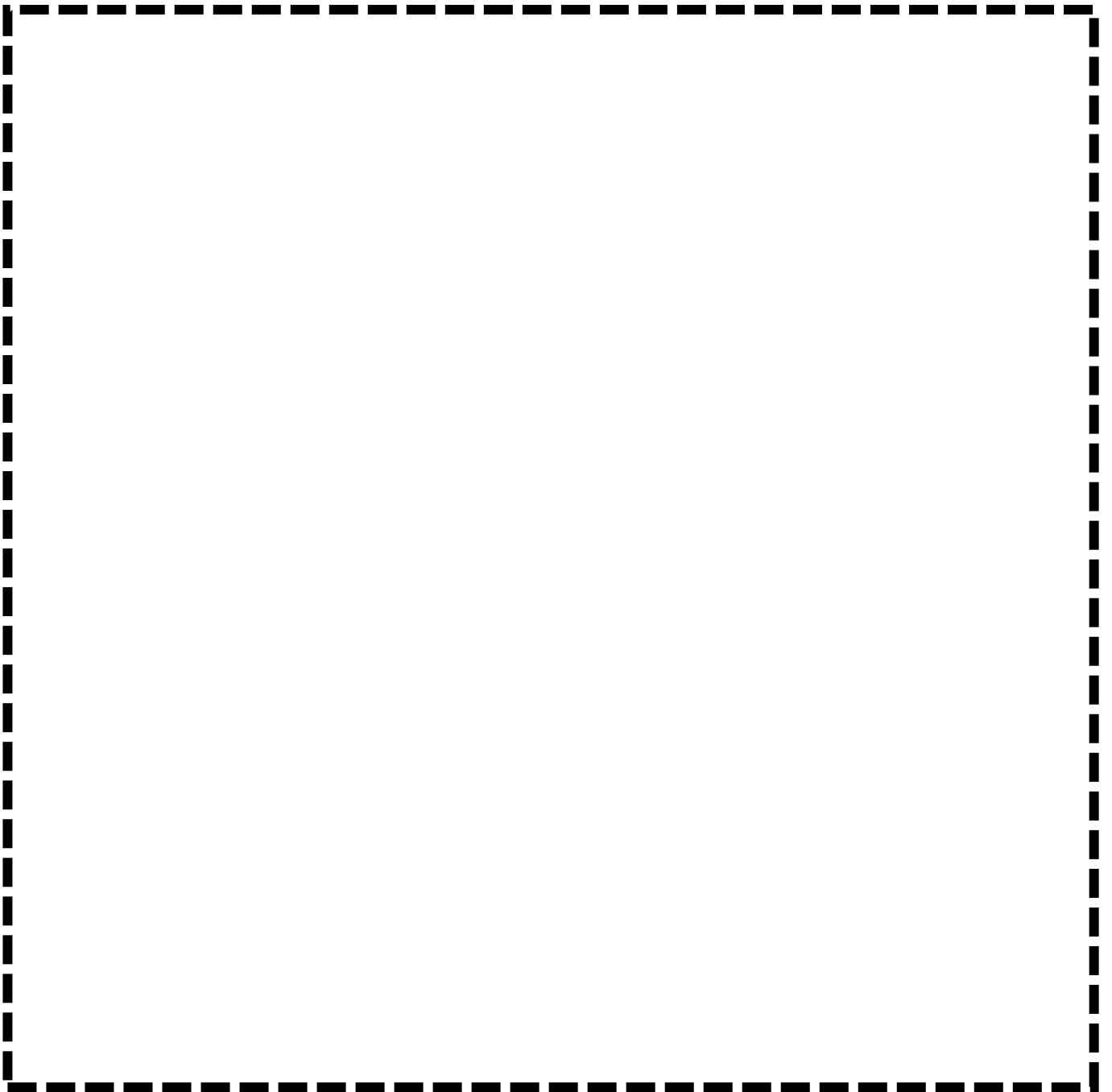
Monday

Task:

Choose words from the list below and design your own calligrams in the space.

Challenge – can you think of your own words that would make good calligrams?

height, rainbow, sunshine, branches, wiggly, grow, shrink, bumpy, curly



Read the following shape poems. Sometimes the words create the outline of the shape, and sometimes they fill the shape. As you read, think about how the words relate to the shape created. You could also look for your own on the internet and in poetry books!

Tuesday

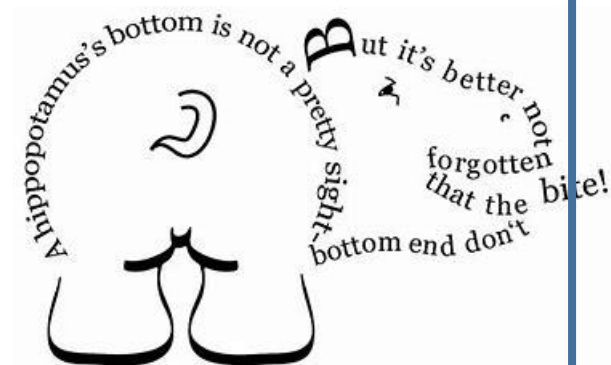
In a twist

We felt the rain, wind, and hail, and
Then the thunder and lightning came.
The winds gathered up and began to spin
Like a spinning top, sucking up dust like a vacuum cleaner.
The twister went around and around, like a merry-go-round.
The gusts of air were picking up dust.
It continued to roar loudly,
Destroying everything
Along the way.
Soon it was
Gone.

Extension:

Watch the video on how Bembo
calligram picture. Have a go at re

<https://www>



No!
Not more rain
splashing on the window
pane. In the main, I don't complain.
The fact remains, the drains contain so much
rain that they are strained. The weather vane's
become inane, when every day it rains again. It's plain

to
see
for
you
and
me
it
has
to
be
the
end
of play.



LO1 Tuesday



Raindrops shining as the sunlight catches them
As the rainbow is beginning to take its form
Its wonderful colours splitting the clouds
Nature's beauty in all its splendour
But enjoy it, too soon it will be gone
Only lasting a few minutes
Watch it fade away

Wednesday

Which poem was your favourite and why? Remember to use the word *because* in your answer.

Billy has written a short poem. He would like to turn it into a shape poem. Could you think of a shape for his poem and write it for him? *Top tip: if you draw the shape in pencil and write in pen, you could rub out the lines so that you can't see the shape you have drawn! Plan out the spacing of your words carefully. It might take a couple of attempts.*

Falling leaves

Swaying, fluttering

Rustling under foot

Drifting into piles

Like autumnal snow

I miss the green leaves

When will it be spring again?

Thanks guys! If you're struggling to draw it, you can find a template saved on the website! You could write on the shape or trace it!



Powerful Vocabulary

Here are two very short and simple shape poems. Which of these two shape poems do you think is better? Why do you think this is?

A



B

A
TALL
LONELY
OAK TREE
WINDS HOWL
LEAVES SHAKE
ACORNS CLATTER
D
O
W
N
TO THE DRY GROUND

Poem B is much more descriptive. It uses adjectives and powerful verbs. When writing poetry, it's important to think about vocabulary and description just like when writing a story, especially because we have less words to use.

Watch the similes video below, then complete the simile and adjectives activity on the next page. Remember to use the most powerful words you can think of. If you'd like a challenge, then watch the metaphors video too!

Similes: www.youtube.com/watch?v=pm6zt24w0qU

Metaphors: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOOFBAic5kw

Here's a fun song to help you remember: www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoSBVNUO2LU

Wednesday

Powerful Vocabulary

*challenge = powerful adjectives, verbs and adverbs

** challenge = powerful adjectives, verbs, adverbs and similes

*** challenge = powerful adjectives, verbs, adverbs and similes similes/metaphors

	Adjectives	Verbs & adverbs	Simile/ metaphor
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-delicate,
fragile
snowflake
-intricate,
mesmerising
pattern

floating gently

swirling
gracefully

as unique as a
finger print

drifting like a
feather



Thursday

PLAN A SHAPE POEM

Think of your own subject for a shape poem. Think of a noun that you are confident and familiar with. It could be: an animal, a season, a food, a mythical creature, the weather, a feeling.

Your task:

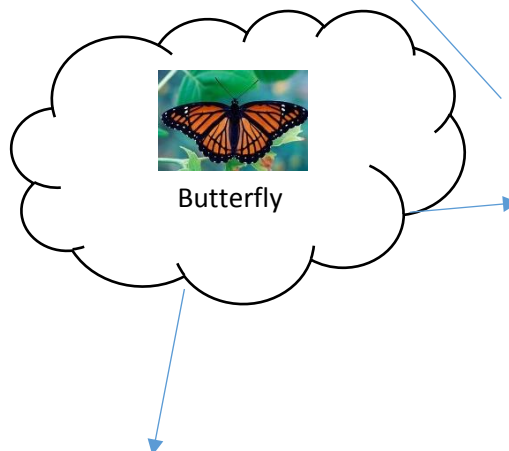
Draw your noun in the middle of the page and create a mind map of descriptive words and phrases. See if you can include:

- adjectives
- similes /metaphors
- Powerful verbs and adverbs
- all the senses (see, hear, smell, touch, taste)

Look at the WAGOLL below then create your own on the next page. You need at least 8 ideas.

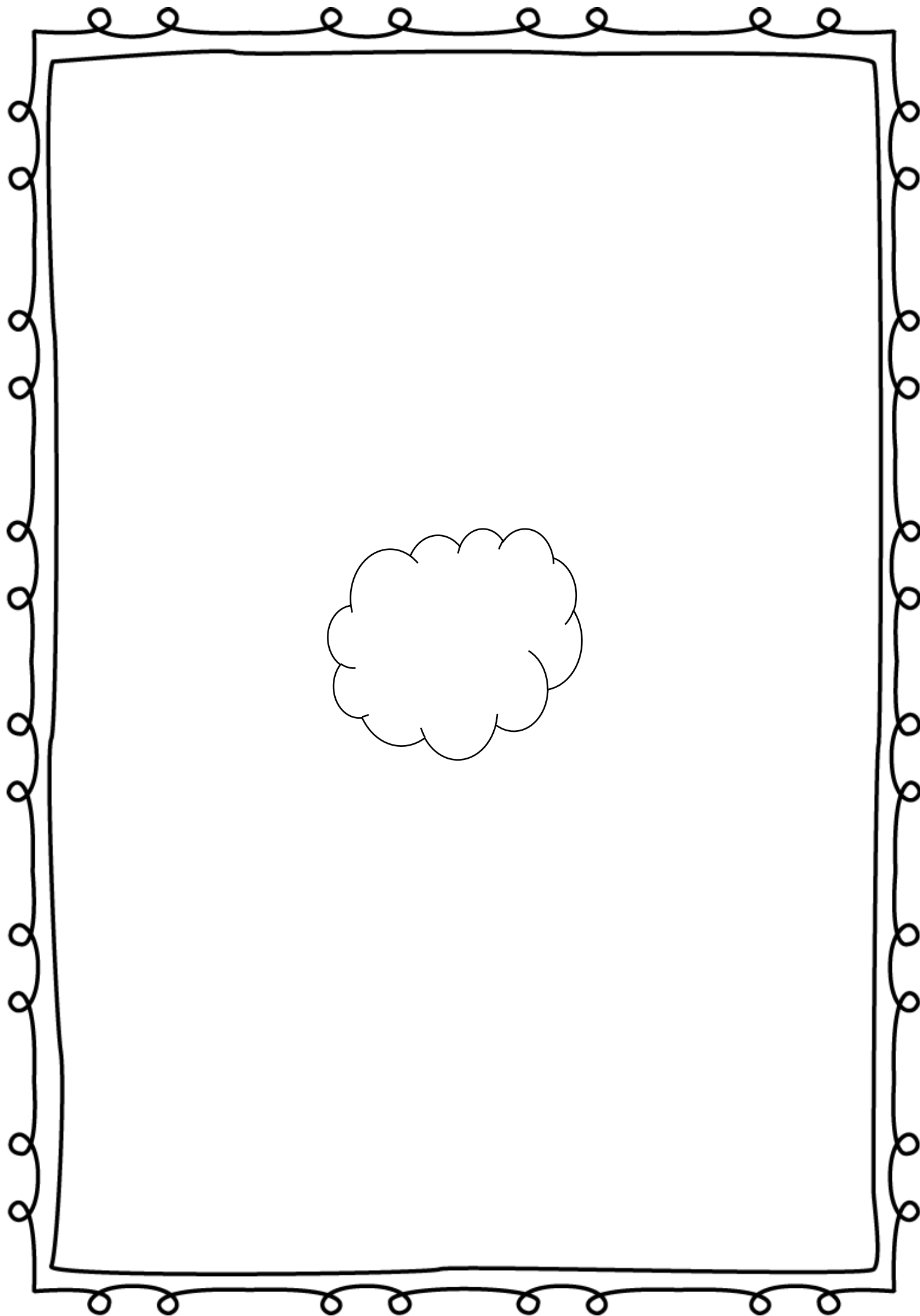
*beautiful and
elegant*

*gracefully drifting
through the sky*



*enjoying the
sweet nectar
of the
colourful
flowers.*

*as delicate as a
petal*



Friday

It's Poem Time!

Task 1:

Before writing your shape poem, it is important you put your descriptive words and phrases from yesterday in the order you wish to use them. Write your poem out on paper and tick off your phrases as you use them. Remember to include commas or full stops where needed.

Task 2:

Now it's time to create your own shape poem. Use the steps to success to help you.

1. Decide whether you are going to outline the shape with your words, or fill the shape with your words.
2. Draw your shape in pencil. If you are struggling, you could print a template of your object to use or trace. (e.g. search for 'horse template')
3. Carefully consider how many words you have and how large your picture is. How big/ small do you need to write?
4. Write your poem in or around your shape. Remember to tick off the words and phrases you have used as you go. If you find it won't fit, you may need to start again –remember to be a YETI and persevere!
5. Colour your picture lightly so that you can still see the words underneath.

Et voilà! You've created a shape poem! Well done Year 5! Send a picture of your poem to your teacher. We'd love to see them! 😊