Contents

Introduction
Summary of pack ................................................................................................................ 1

Route through - week one: Early and Middle English poetry
Some introductory work on riddles ..................................................................................... 2
An introduction to Beowulf ................................................................................................. 2
An introduction to Chaucer ................................................................................................. 3

Route through - week two: 16th century: The Elizabethans
An introduction to Shakespeare’s sonnets .......................................................................... 5
An introduction to Ben Jonson and Sir Walter Raleigh ......................................................... 5

Route through - week three: 17th and 18th centuries: The Metaphysical poets
An introduction to John Donne’s poems............................................................................. 7
An introduction to George Herbert’s ‘Easter Wings’ ............................................................. 8
A lesson on Anne Bradstreet and the role of women in the 17th century ......................... 9

Route through - week four: 19th century - The Romantic poets
An introduction to William Blake ....................................................................................... 10
Comparing autumnal poems by John Keats and John Clare ............................................. 11

Route through - week five: 20th century - WW1 poetry, Modernism
An introduction to WW1 poetry ....................................................................................... 13
An introduction to Modernism and T.S. Eliot ................................................................. 15

Route through - week six: Contemporary poetry
An introduction to Carol Ann Duffy ................................................................................. 16
An introduction to Benjamin Zephaniah .......................................................................... 17
An introduction to slam poetry ....................................................................................... 18

© www.teachit.co.uk 2014
This KS3 pack offers a structured route through a topic called ‘Poetry through the ages’, along with teaching ideas and accompanying resources, and suggestions for differentiation. The pack contains a rich collection of Teachit resources, many of which were specifically commissioned for the purposes of this pack.

It is organised into six parts, with each part focusing on a particular era and/or poet, such as Shakespeare and the Elizabethans or the Romantics. Within each part you’ll find a selection of:

- starter activities
- activities to show students’ understanding
- plenary activities
- creative opportunities.

The pack lends itself to being used in different ways. It could be dipped into on an ad hoc basis at either Key Stage 3 or Key Stage 4 or it could form the basis of half a term’s work (or even a term’s work if you wanted to dwell on certain poets and tasks a little more or even introduce your own choice of poets and poems to the mix). The resources are all available in adaptable formats, making it easy to differentiate the tasks by ability.

This particular pack aims to introduce students to a diverse and challenging mix of poetic texts in order to give them a sense of history, and a time frame in which to ‘place’ the various poetic movements and poets. It is also useful for giving KS3 students a taste of the kinds of poetry they will encounter at GCSE and get them used to: listening to, reading, annotating and analysing poetry in all its forms. At various points, there are also suggestions for approaching a poem ‘blind’ or as an unseen text to help students build their confidence in this area. There are also plenty of creative and written opportunities so that students can experiment with and create poetry of their own along the way.

We’ve included links to each separate resource included in this pack so that you can access the resources directly on teachit.co.uk. We’ve also included the file number or name for each original resource - just pop this into Teachit’s search engine. Most of the resources in this pack are Word documents, but we’ve also included links to PowerPoints and interactive activities where applicable. Please log in first in order to access any of these resources on Teachit.

If you have accessed this pack as a Teachit subscriber then the usual permissions apply. Teachit.plus subscribers can access the Word documents and any PowerPoints whereas Teachit.works subscribers will also have access to any interactivities.

To help with navigation, there is a contents table which details which part each resource is used in and the page number.

No poetry unit of work would be complete without a mention of Trevor Millum’s Poetry Place. Its aim is to help with the teaching, understanding and enjoyment of poetry and it’s filled with resources, suggestions for helping your students with the writing process and even has a place for you to share your own poems and those of your students. Do take a look!

Our thanks go to contributor Angela Topping who has written this pack and to the following contributors whose resources are also included: Julie Blake and Tim Shortis, Karin Barratt, Lindy Leslie, Ruth Newbury, Penny Fearn, Hannah Roberts, Kerry Ricketts, Ian Bennett, Emily Evans, Kate Kearey, Clare Rees, Lucy Cripps, Rhiannon Glover, Alison Powell.

We hope you enjoy using this pack. If you have any questions, please get in touch: email support@teachit.co.uk or call us on 01225 788850. Alternatively, you might like to give some feedback for other Teachit members - you can do this by adding a comment on the Teaching packs page on Teachit (please log in to access this!)