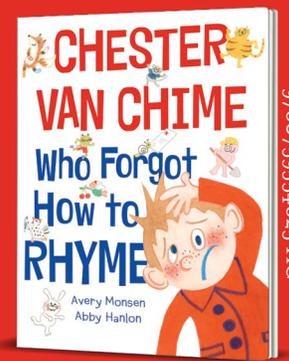


# CHESTER VAN CHIME Who Forgot How to RHYME

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## TEACHING TIPS



Readers respond in multiple ways, including: making connections to themselves, their communities, and their literacy experiences; pursuing their curiosity through discussion, inquiry, and self-expression; and changing their attitudes and behaviors. This guide provides suggestions and resources for supporting and extending students' authentic reading responses. Select activities and resources that best meet the needs and interests of your students.

## Read and Discuss

Read *Chester Van Chime Who Forgot How to Rhyme* aloud and discuss the book with students. What ideas stood out? What questions do they have? Collect students' questions and thoughts on chart paper or an online platform like Flipgrid, and/or invite students to record their thinking in their notebooks. Students can add to these shared notes and use them for writing and discussion topics for the following activities. This guide includes several resources for reading and discussing the book.



## Personal Connections

Chester enjoys rhyming words and worries when he seems to have lost this ability. Encourage students to think about their interests such as hobbies, popular culture, or sports. What do they enjoy about these activities? How have they learned about these activities? Do they share these interests with other people in their lives? Invite students to reflect in their notebooks, then share with a partner. Model and set expectations for inclusivity and acceptance for everyone's experiences—recognizing that many young people can feel uncomfortable sharing opinions, preferences, or memories that reveal differences or cause embarrassment. Encourage interest and respect for each other.



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## TEACHING TIPS

### Literacy Connections

Students can collect words they encounter through reading and their daily experiences. Invite students to keep a section in their notebooks or binder for their personal collection of words. Brainstorm as a group some possible categories for your word lists such as “Words About Food” or “Silly Words” and let students pick two or three categories from the shared list or add some of their own. Some students will suggest collecting rhyming words like Chester!



Create a collaborative word wall of students’ favorite words. Once a week or so, provide students time to share their word collections with each other and choose one word to add to the class word wall. Students can add words to a shared document or write their words on index cards or sentence strips and display them in the classroom. Throughout the year, students can add to their class and personal word walls.

### Community Connections

Chester recognizes that even the most talented and experienced people in his community have days when they are not at their best. Invite community members in creative fields such as artists, chefs, and performers to talk with students about their work and how they handle “off days” and setbacks. Encourage students to identify strategies for navigating challenges as part of growth and learning.



### Additional Resources

[PBS Kids: Rhyming Games](#)

These Teaching Tips were prepared by Donalyn Miller. Find her at [bookwhisperer.com](#), [theauthorvillage.com](#), on Twitter at [@donalynbooks](#), and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/donalynbooks](#).