

# Alliteration and Concrete Poetry

In today's mini-lesson, we are going to look at alliteration and concrete poetry. Don't worry if you don't understand what those are right now – all will become clear.


The first thing I want you to do is to choose one of your favourite words.

Abby, my step daughter, chose the word... **blob**

The second thing I want you to do is put your word in an alliterative sentence.

Alliteration is the repetition of the same consonant sounds at the beginnings of the words. For example: Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.

Alliteration is really useful as a way to stick things in our brain and has been used as a memory device in oral poetry. Beowulf, an 8<sup>th</sup> century Old English poem, uses lots of alliteration. Here's an example:



He was four times a father, this fighter prince:  
one by one they entered the world,  
Heorogar, Hrothgar, the good Halga  
and a daughter, I have heard, who was Onela's queen,  
a balm in bed to the battle-scarred Swede.

Let's look now at what Abby did with her favourite word: **blob**

Being a big broad blob brought Bob to breathlessly blubbering. But Bob began to become a believer beyond belief in his bodacious body, brought about by brilliant books by barely brainy bigwigs.

The third thing I want you to do is to make these sentences into a concrete poem.

A concrete is also called a shape poem and a visual poem. The earliest example of this type of poem comes from 3BCE! Quite simply, you write the poem in the shape of the thing you are talking about. Here is a picture of Abby's shape poem:

It's over to you now. Have fun! I can't wait to see your Creations.

