

### 3. Let's Write Some Poetry!

[For ages 13+]

#### Goals

1. To introduce poetic elements (sensory details, metaphors and similes, alliteration)
2. To write original lyrics to a song
3. To relate song writing to poetry
4. To perform the song/poem to a wider audience

#### Special Note:

- We encourage children to use their mother tongue and songs that have been passed down by their ancestors

#### Materials

Paper, writing tools, and a black or white board

#### Preparation

Choose an existing song that you and others in your community are familiar with

#### Activities

##### Part 1:

- Identify and sing a local *Bhaka*
- Write each stanza of the song on the board and read it out loud.
- Identify the rhythm of the words and your favorite parts. Give a reason why you like it. Do the same with what you do not like about the song's lyrics.
- Analyze what the song is trying to say. Use the 'W' questions to help you discuss the song. You can write them down on the board or on your own paper.

Questions	Answers
Who? (e.g. Who wrote the song? Who is the song written for? Who are the main characters in the song?)	
What?	
When?	
Where?	
Why?	
How?	

- Do the lyrics to the song resemble poetry?

##### Part 2:

- Discuss themes you want to write about [e.g. love, hate, victory, loss, identity]

- Make a sensory detail table to brainstorm words that could be used to describe your theme.

<b>Sense</b>	<b>Words</b>
Touch	
Taste	
Smell	
Sight	
Sound	

- Write a phrase using sensory details
- Create a small group to compose stanzas together
- Write each small group's stanzas on the board and discuss the meaning behind the lyrics
- Arrange the stanzas so that there is a logical flow
- Perform!

**Reflect**

How are songs and poems related?

