### Title:
Plant Poetry Every Day: Week 2

**“Under the Ground” by Rhoda Bacmeister**

**“Seeds” by Walter de la Mar**

### Grade:
4th Grade

### Content:
Science Themed Poetry

### Duration:
15-20 minutes daily for one week

### Standard:
- **RL.4.5:** Explain major differences between poems.
- **SL 3.4:** Speak clearly at an understandable pace.
- **RL.3.13:** Read and comprehend poetry appropriate for third grade.

### Objective:
Students will practice reading fluency by reading poems aloud; compare and contrast 2 poems; perform poetry for an audience.

### Materials:
- Poems: “Under the Ground” by Rhoda Bacmeister
  “Seeds” by Walter de la Mar
- Graphic organizer *(below)*
- Pencil (markers, crayons, colored pencils—optional)

### Introduction Description:
Students will explore two poems every day for a week to practice fluency and respond in a different way each day.

### Steps:
- Use the graphic organizer below.
- Read poems aloud several times each day.
- Complete the task for each day of the week:
  - Day 1- How are these poems alike?
  - Day 2- How are these poems different?
  - Day 3- Find challenging words from each poem.
  - Day 4- Perform the poem for an audience.
  - Day 5- Write and illustrate your own poem.

### Adaptations *(optional)*:
- Listen to someone else read the poem to you.
- Turn the poem into a song.
- Write the poem down on another sheet of paper- big or small.
- Record a video of you performing the poem.
- Draw illustrations for one or both of the poems.

### Finished Product:
Students will compare and contrast two poems; analyze language in poems; perform poems for an audience; write and illustrate their own poems.
UNDER THE GROUND

What is under the grass,
Way down in the ground,
Where everything is cool and wet
With darkness all around?

Little pink worms live there;
Ants and brown bugs creep
Softly round the stones and rocks
Where roots are pushing deep.

Do they hear us walking
On the grass above their heads;
Hear us running over
While they snuggle in their beds?

- Rhoda W. Bacmeister
SEEDS

The seeds I sowed—
For week unseen—
Have pushed up pygmy
Shoots of green;
So frail you’d think
The tiniest stone
Would never let
A glimpse be shown.

But no; a pebble
Near them lies,
At least a cherry-stone
In size,
Which that mere sprout
Has heaved away,
To bask in sunshine,
See the Day.

— Walter de la Mare
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Every Day: Read each poem aloud.
- Read together with someone else.
- Take turns reading a line.
- Read on your own.
- Read in a funny voice.
- Read in a whisper voice.
- What’s another way you could read it?

Day 1: How are these poems alike?

Day 2: How are these poems different?

Day 3: Write down 4 challenging words from each poem.

Day 4: Perform the poem for someone else.
- Make eye contact with audience.
- Speak clearly.
- Use expression.
- Use appropriate volume.

Day 5: Write your own poem about plants.