**Title:** Poem of the Week  
**Grade:** 2nd Grade

**Content:** Speaking, Reading, Listening and Writing  
**Duration:** 15-30 minutes daily for five days

**Standard:**

- **SL.2.6:** Speak distinctly with appropriate volume in order to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.
- **RF.2.4:** Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
- **RF.2.3:** Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
- **W.2.10:** Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing.

**Objective:** Children will practice fluent oral reading while studying a poem for a week, noticing vocabulary and rhyme.

**Resources Needed:**

- Paper for daily writing or a PoetryJournal with a page for each day of the week. (5 pages)
- Folder or special packet to save poems from week to week
- Listen to the poem by the author Kenn Nesbitt on this site
  - [https://www.poetry4kids.com/poems/my-teacher-calls-me-sweetie-cakes/](https://www.poetry4kids.com/poems/my-teacher-calls-me-sweetie-cakes/)
- A copy of the poem (included here and at the end of this lesson)

**My Teacher Calls Me Sweetie Cakes**

My teacher calls me sweetie cakes.  
My classmates think it’s funny  
to hear her call me angel face  
or pookie bear or honey.  
She calls me precious baby doll.  
She calls me pumpkin pie  
or doodle bug or honey bunch  
or darling butterfly.  
My class is so embarrassing  
I need to find another;  
just any class at all  
in which the teacher’s not my mother.

**Introduction/Description:** Reading poetry is a fun way to practice fluency and reading with expression. Poetry can ‘paint’ pictures in our minds and give us a lot to think about! This week
we will focus on a poem by Kenn Nesbitt called, *My Teacher Calls Me Sweetie Cakes.*
Day 1
- Listen as an adult reads the poem aloud.
- Think about what you heard and think of two things you remember from the poem.
- Listen to an adult read the poem again and follow along on your copy.
- What happened to the person in the poem?
- How do you think they felt?
- Draw or write about one thing you thought was funny on page 1 of your Poetry Journal.

Day 2
- Use a copy of the poem and read along with an adult.
- Use a yellow crayon or highlighter to underline all the words the teacher called the student in the poem.
- What does someone in your family call you?
- Does your teacher call you a special name?
- Draw a picture of you with a teacher you love. Then write a sentence or two to match your picture using punctuation and nice handwriting on page 2 of your Poetry Journal.

Day 3
- Use a copy of the poem and read along with an adult.
- First, read it with a normal voice, then on second time, practice in a voice like the author used or in a squeaky voice.
- Read it together one more time with any voice you want!
- Are there any words in the poem you aren't sure what they mean? Ask an adult for help. Write the words on page 3 of your Poetry Journal. If you know all the words, make a list of all the things you would like to be called.
- Practice reading the poem one more time like you're a TV star.

Day 4
- Use a copy of the poem and read it on your own-with help from an adult if needed.
- Go on a Word Hunt and see if you can find these words in the poem and record them in your Poetry Journal on page 4. What else can you find?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A compound word</th>
<th>A short vowel word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A word with a consonant blend</td>
<td>A noun or the name of something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A long vowel word</td>
<td>A one syllable word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two words that rhyme</td>
<td>A two syllable word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your favorite word</td>
<td>The word that is used the most</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Day 5

- You should sound amazing reading this poem today! Practice until you are ready to perform with excitement and fun in your voice. Decide if you will read it to your grandma or someone else you love over the phone. Yay for you!
- Take time today to draw something you liked from the poem. Maybe you will draw the teacher you have at home or a picture of you looking like a sweetie cake!
- What do you want to draw from the poem? Use page 5 of your Poetry Journal to create your drawing!

Finished Product: The child will complete the Poetry Journal and share it with an adult.

Adaptations:
- Other poems could be used with the same attention and focus on fluency.
- Students could draw or write more, depending on their interests.
  Kenn Nesbitt has a variety of books and poems on his website.
  [https://www.poetry4kids.com/](https://www.poetry4kids.com/)

My Teacher Calls Me Sweetie Cakes

My teacher calls me sweetie cakes.

My classmates think it’s funny

to hear her call me angel face
or pookie bear or honey.

She calls me precious baby doll.

She calls me pumpkin pie

or doodle bug or honey bunch

or darling butterfly.

My class is so embarrassing

I need to find another;

just any class at all

in which the teacher's not my mother.

— Kenn Nesbitt