arts CORPS

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ART ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

EXPLORATION OF RHYME SCHEMES

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RHYME SCHEMES LESSON

This lesson explores different rhyme schemes and how they may enhance a song, poem or rap.
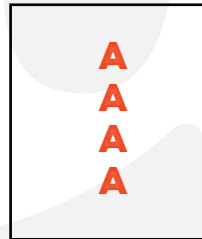
Learning Goals:

- You will learn the definition of a rhyme scheme.
- You will learn how to read a rhyme scheme and determine rhyme pattern.
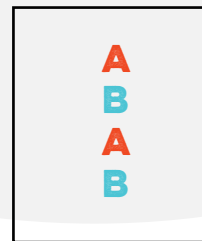- You will explore commonly used rhyme schemes.

Activity Opening:

Rhyme schemes are used in poems, songs, and raps. When we listen to raps, poems, or songs, the thing that catches us is the rhyme. So let's have some fun and learn about rhyme schemes.

A rhyme scheme is the pattern the rhyme follows. So if you see a rhyme scheme that says:

A
A
A
A

that means that there are four lines and they all rhyme. The repeating letter means that the lines rhyme. If you see a rhyme scheme that says:

A
B
A
B

we know that the two **A** lines rhyme and the two **B** lines rhyme. So in that rhyme scheme, the 1st and 3rd lines rhyme and the 2nd and 4th lines rhyme. Here is an example:

A My name is **Erica**
B I love to **sing**
A I live in **America**
B And I do my **thing**

RHYME SCHEMES LESSON

Discipline: Writing

Duration: 15 - 20 minutes

Age Range: Ages 14 - 21

Creator: Erica Merritt

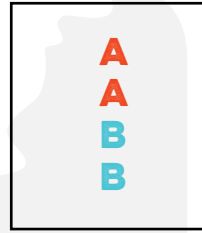**Contact:**
integration@artscorps.org

Materials:
Paper or
Pen or
Pencil

Vocabulary:
Rhyme
Scheme
Pattern

Another common rhyme pattern is:

A
A
B
B

I bet you can guess that the first two lines rhyme and the second two lines rhyme. **A** rhymes with **A** and **B** rhymes with **B**! Here is an example:
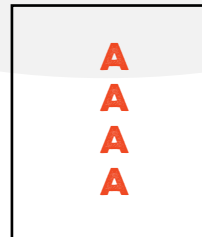
A My name is **Erica**
A I live in **America**
B I like to **dance**
B Anytime I get the **chance**

The next rhyme scheme we will look at is:

A My name is **Erica**
B I love to **write**
C My best story
B Is about my **life**

So here the only two lines that rhyme are the 2nd and the 4th.

Let's try:

A
A
A
A

A They call me **"E"**
A My spirit's **free**
A Love being **me!**
A So **naturally**

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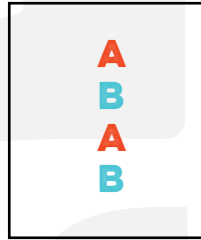**Contact:**
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Steps/Instructions:

Now it's your turn to write 4 lines about yourself using the rhyme scheme. And then you will sing along with me. Think about these four lines as a way to introduce yourself, just like I did in my earlier lines. Try:
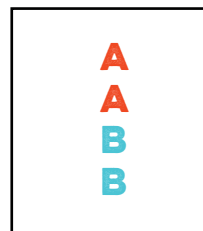
A
B
A
B

Roll Call! The examples are then used as part of a call and response song called Roll Call, which is used to share things about yourself.

Here is an example: If you have a friend with you, you can say your lines and your friend can say "YEAH!" in between your lines and then end with "ROLL CALL!" said all together.

> **My name is Erica**
> (YEAH!)
> **I like to sing**
> (YEAH!)
> **And when I dance**
> (YEAH!)
> **I do my thing**
> (YEAH!)
> (ROLL CALL!)

Now try a different rhyme scheme:

A
A
B
B

RHYME SCHEMES LESSON

Here is an example with some added call and response lines:

> **Can you hear me?**
> **(**What? What?)
> **Can you feel me?**
> (Roll call!)
> **My name is Erica**
> (YEAH!)
> **I live in America**
> (YEAH!)
> **I like to dance**
> (YEAH!)
> **When I get the chance**
> (ROLL CALL!)

Activity Closing:

Try Roll Call with your original call and response verse. If you aren't with your friends in person, you can see if they will do it with you over the phone or you can ask your family to do Roll Call with you.

CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO VERSION OF THIS LESSON.

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