

Find the Rhyme Scheme

One way to learn about a poem is to look at its rhyme scheme. To find the rhyme scheme, we give a letter to each ending sound of a line. Look at this example on the right.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Sugar is sweet,
and so are you.

The first line ends with *red*, so that line is given the letter A. All lines that end in the same word or a word that rhymes with *red* will have an A. The second line ends in *blue*, which does not rhyme with *red*. The second line is given the letter B. The third line ends in *sweet*, which does not rhyme with either *red* or *blue*, so that line gets the letter C. The last line ends in *you*. Since *you* rhymes with *blue*, it is given the same letter as the second line, which is a B.

Writing the rhyme scheme would look like this:

Roses are red,	A
Violets are blue.	B
Sugar is sweet,	C
and so are you.	B

Below are some simple nursery rhymes. Write the rhyme scheme in the blanks next to the lines.



1. Sing a song of sixpence,
A pocket full of rye.
Four and twenty blackbirds,
Baked in a pie.

2. Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king's horses and all the king's men
Couldn't put Humpty together again.



3. Hickory, dickory, dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The mouse ran down,
Hickory, dickory, dock.

