

ROAR SQUEAK PURR: TWELVE POEM STARTERS

1. Choose an animal that **fascinates** you. Jot down a list of fascinating things about your animal. Now write a poem celebrating it.
2. Create a **mashUP animal** where you mash two animals together (for example: tigraffe, lionwiwi, platadog, leopardapus, snakodile ... the possibilities are endless!). Now write a poem about it. You could even draw it.
3. Brainstorm some words on an animal you love. Now use some of these words to **make the shape or a picture of the animal**.
4. Write a poem about **your pet**, or a pet you would love to have. What delights you? What is your pet good at doing or loves? What does it look like?
5. Choose an animal. Make a list of words that show **how the animal MOVES** then use the words in a poem. You could make a word pattern or a picture poem or a poem of your choosing.
6. Some poems tell **stories**. Write a poem that tells a little story about an animal.
7. Invent **an imaginary animal**. What special features does it have? Write a poem and maybe illustrate it.
8. Some animals are **endangered** or even extinct. Write a poem that shines a light on an endangered or extinct animal.
9. Hunt for an **animal memory** and put it in a poem.
10. Write a poem as though **you are the animal** (from their point of view)! You will have to imagine what the world is like for them.





11. Use one of these titles from *Roar Squeak Purrr* to write a poem:

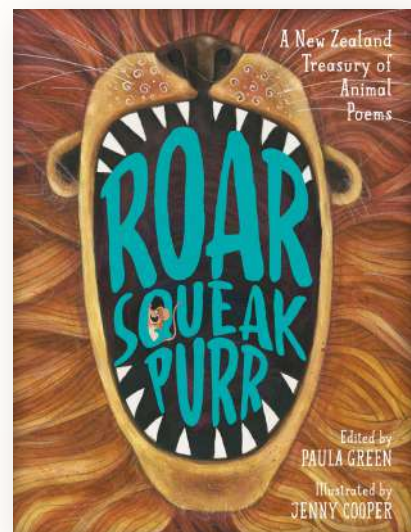
- Ollie the Octopus
- A Whale Poem
- Winter Cat
- Chook Chook
- Secret Agent Cat
- Anifables
- Horse Stars
- The Elephant's Trunk
- Lick Lick Riff
- Cloud-shaped Sheep
- Beautiful Ruru
- Mosquito
- The Soccer Dog
- Hippo in the Mud!

12. Use one of these **first lines** from *Roar Squeak Purrr* to write a poem:

- This pile of old white wool called dog,
- The shabby dinosaur is happy.
- Out of the dark, something comes.
- long beak scavenging for grubs
- Two birds in a tree
- Whales are as big as hills.
- I look smooth and sleek
- Crabs are really very neat
- Frog on the leaf
- Swim little fish swim
- Curled up with my cat



**LISTEN TO YOUR POEM
AS YOU WRITE! HAVE FUN,
POETRY IS PLAY!**



Poems selected by star New Zealand poet **Paula Green** and adorably illustrated by **Jenny Cooper**.

