

Children will relate to this poem about a missing tooth!

GROUP ACTIVITY

Skills

word recognition, reading poetry, rhyming, keeping a steady beat

Materials

poem
displayed

Lost Tooth Poem

My Tooth —anonymous

My tooth fell out and left a space
(pantomime tooth falling out)

So big my tongue can touch my face
(spread arms out wide)

And every time I smile I show
(make a big smile)

The place where something used to grow. (point to “empty” space in mouth)

I miss my tooth as you can guess
(make a sad face)

But now I have to brush one less!
(smile and pretend to brush teeth)

How to do it:

- 1 Read the poem to the class, pointing to each word as you read. Read it again, with the class echoing each line. Then read it as a class without the echoes.
- 2 Brainstorm actions for each line, or use the examples above.
- 3 Read the poem again as a group, incorporating the actions.

Tip for Success

- * Help children engage with the poem by asking questions, such as “What kinds of feelings do you have about losing a tooth?” and “Why do you think a poet might want to make us giggle about losing a tooth?”



Variations

- * Read and act out other “lost tooth” poems, such as “Wiggly Tooth” and “My Wobbly Tooth.” (You can find these online.)
- * Assign partners or small groups a line from the poem to read and act out.