# The Acrobat
## and Other Poems

Poems by Debbie Croft



PM

For teachers' inspection ONLY

## The Acrobat and Other Poems

**Level** 22

**Text Type** Poetry (Imaginative)

**Curriculum Area** Literacy

### Retelling to encourage critical thinking about the content

Ask each student to retell the poems in his or her own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

### Questions to reinforce meaning and stimulate discussion

Literal

1 Why did the acrobat grumble?

2 What are some tricks you could see at a circus?

3 What sounds can owls make?

Inferential

4 Why were there eight guinea pigs in the hutch at dawn?

5 Why are jellyfish like sea umbrellas?

6 Why does the ice-hockey team wear a grin?

7 Why do drivers sometimes need to wait when they are following a large truck?

8 How does snow feel?

Applied Knowledge

9 Why are koalas protected?

10 How do coaches help sporting teams to win?

### Cinquain

A cinquain is a poem with five lines, each with a specific purpose. **Line 1** has one word (the title). **Line 2** describes the title, and may include adjectives. **Line 3** describes actions of the subject, using one or more verbs. **Line 4** expresses a feeling. **Line 5** has one or more words that recall the title.

### Dylan Thomas Portrait

A Dylan Thomas Portrait is a poem that asks a question about something you can see, hear, touch, taste or smell. The question is answered by a series of two-word, hyphenated descriptions that create a picture of the subject. These are sometimes followed by a single word that summarises the description.

### Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Level 22 | Card | Poetry | *The Fishing Challenge* |
| Level 22 | Book | Narrative | *Zac's New Act* |

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Poems by Debbie Croft

Illustrations by Gregory Baldwin, Scott Fraser, Darren Frisina, Tracie Grimwood and Richard Hoit

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## The Acrobat

The acrobat showed us his tumbling,
But it seemed he was better at stumbling.
He ran up to the mat,
But he tripped and fell flat,
And then all we heard was his grumbling.



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## The Magician

The magician can make things appear,
How he does it, is not always clear.
But he seems to be fond
Of waving his wand,
Calling, "Abra-ca-dab-ra, look here!"



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# Blip

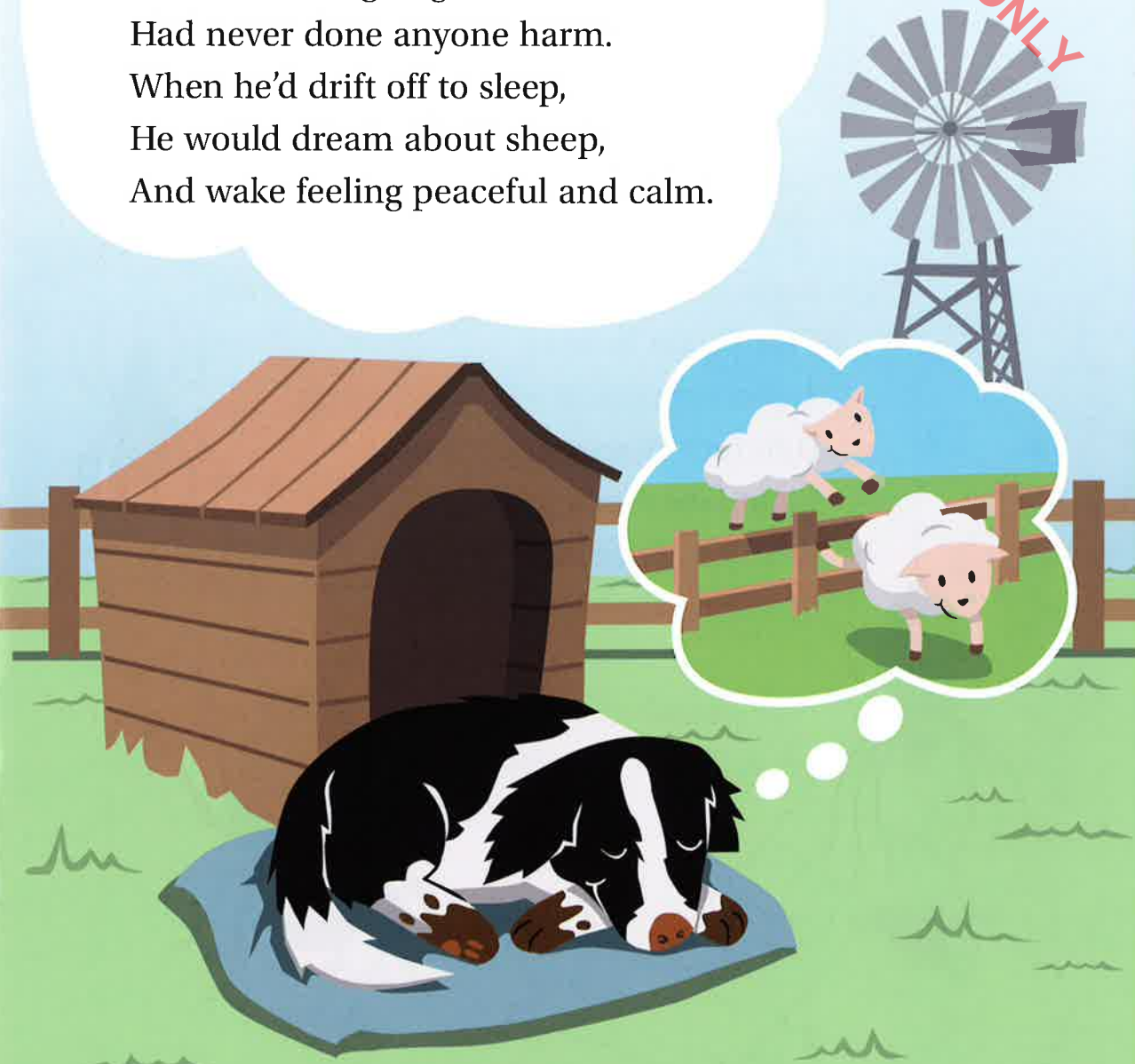
There once was a creature called Blip,
Who lived in a fancy spaceship.
When he flew here from Mars,
He was amazed by our cars,
So he went on a lengthy road trip.



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# The Farm Dog

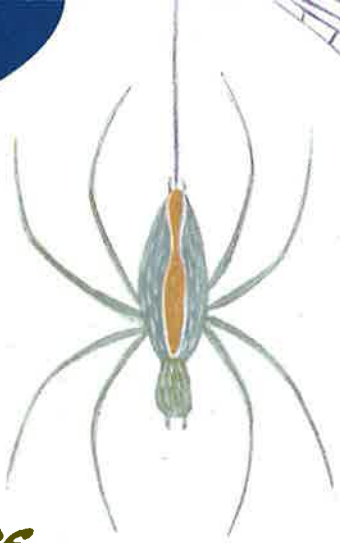
A hard-working dog on a farm,
Had never done anyone harm.
When he'd drift off to sleep,
He would dream about sheep,
And wake feeling peaceful and calm.



# Acrostics

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## Spiders

**S**een in countries all around the world
**P**reying on insects
**I**njecting poison with their fangs
**D**ifferent shapes and sizes
**E**ight lanky legs
**R**eally frightening
**S**pinning threads of silk.









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## Ice Skating

**I**ce skating,
**C**lever dancers,
**E**ver so graceful!

**S**peed skaters,
**K**eeping ahead of the other teams,
**A**nd passing each other on the slippery ice.
**T**aking turns to be
**I**n the lead,
**N**o one knows who will win, or who will take the
**G**old medal!