Many words sound like the noise or action which they describe. For example, the word **buzz** sounds like the noise made by a bee and the word **rustle** sounds like the noise made by wind moving the leaves on a tree. **Buzz** and **rustle** are examples of **onomatopoeia**.

**Puzzle it out!**

In each line of this poem about sounds, a word has been left out. Fill in each gap with a word which echoes the sound that is being described.

**Suggestions: Puzzle it Out!**

Plop, murmur, whirring, crackle, slamming, shrieks, shloosh, swuttering, phwerp, trinkle, trekking, plur.

**Coin a Word!**

If you can't find a word that exactly matches a sound, you can make up or coin a word.

**Suggestions: Coin a Word!**

Pluck, twinkling, shimmering, sprinkler, tinkling, tickling.

**Have you heard?**

The ......................................of water as it drips from a tap
The ......................................waves as they gently lap
The ......................................of the air from a hairdryer
The ......................................of wood as it burns in the fire
The ......................................of doors on a windy day
The ......................................of laughter as children play

Coin a suitable word to fill in the gap in each line of the rest of the poem. There are no right answers, but our poet made some suggestions at the bottom of the page!

The ......................................of melting snow dropping off trees
The ......................................of leaves blowing in the breeze
The ......................................of air from a deflating balloon
The ......................................as you tap a glass with a spoon
The ......................................of a startled bird
The ......................................of a gently whispered word
Sounding the Same – Onomatopoeia 2

Let’s give a cheer for Onomatopoeia

Are you ready? Are you ready?
Start the fizzing and the whizzing
Start the rapping and the clapping
Start the humming and the drumming
Start the snipping and the snapping
Let’s give a welcome cheer
For onomatopoeia!

With a pitter-pat-a-pat
And a rattling rat-a-tat
With a splutter and a splatter
With a chitter and a chatter
With a clinking and a clunking
With a plinking and a plunking
With a hee-haw and a boo-hoo
With an oompah and a yoo-hoo
Join in and give a cheer
For onomatopoeia!

What did you hear?

Think of words to describe the sounds you would hear in a particular place. One of you chooses a place and you take turns to think of a word to describe one of the sounds you would hear there.

For example, player 1 says; ‘Walking round the farm, I heard the clucking of the hens.’ Player 2 says: ‘Walking round the farm, I heard the bellow of a bull.’ Continue until somebody can’t think of a sound and a word to describe it. That player then drops out.

Choose other places from this list: a zoo, a fairground, at the seaside, at a football match, at a theme park, at home during a thunderstorm, at a firework display.

Here are some words that you could use:
roar, hoot, woof, whizz, thud, crash, crack, boom, screech, honk, squeak, yell, snarl, purr, chirp, hiss.