

## Silent Letters and Rhyming Words Activities

*Read the poem below and do the activity or activities below that your teacher says:*

- Work together to read through the poem below, making sure that the two lines which are together rhyme, e.g. that line three rhymes with line four. One person should say just line one, then the next person should say lines two and three, then the next person lines four and five, etc, so the two rhyming words are said by different people.
- Listen as your partner reads out the first ten lines of the poem and correct them if any of the pairs of lines don't rhyme. They will then do the same as you read the next ten lines.
- Listen as your partner reads out the poem with silent letters wrongly pronounced, then correct them on their deliberate mistakes.
- Listen as your partner reads out the poem, underline any letters in the final words of the lines which they don't pronounce, then discuss which letters you underlined and if there are any other silent letters.
- Work together to underline the silent letters in the final words of the lines below, using the rhymes with the matching words to help. There is one silent letter in each pair of lines.

*Look at lists of silent letters online, try to think of rhyming words, then do one of these activities:*

- Challenge another group to think of rhyming words for words with silent letters
- Read out the word with a silent letter and the word you thought of, and see if the other group agree that they rhyme
- Read out the word and rhyming word and see if the other group can identify the silent letter

**Silent letters poem**

There are many mountains that I want to climb  
I will do one this evening if I have the time

My birthday treat is one chocolate biscuit  
But I'm on a diet – I shouldn't risk it

I shouted out for a hip-hop dancer  
But from the street there was no answer

It took some time to walk down the aisle  
From the door to the priest was more than a mile

The priest asked us to sing a hymn  
But it was difficult to do both that and swim

He asked me to repay my debt  
But my money was all far too wet

I wish that I was much more handsome  
Then my wife would pay my ransom

I really need a new steam iron  
But instead I bought another lion

The police want me to take off my hood  
But my hair is a mess, so I don't think I should

Cavemen didn't use a comb  
Having neat hair was invented in Rome

I nearly bought the whole of Oxford Street  
But the man on the corner wouldn't give a receipt

Mary had a little lamb  
But she swapped it for my can of Spam

The tarantula asked to be let out  
I shouldn't have done it, without a doubt

He asked to join me in my tomb  
But with me and my car there won't be room

A typical hitchhiker's thumb  
Is much improved if you stick on a plum

**Matching rhyming words**

*Thinking about rhyme and meaning, find a matching line for each line on the left.*

There are many mountains that I want to climb	But I'm on a diet – I shouldn't risk it
My birthday treat is one chocolate biscuit	But from the street there was no answer
I shouted out for a hip-hop dancer	But instead I bought another lion
It took some time to walk down the aisle	But it was difficult to do both that and swim
The priest asked us to sing a hymn	But my hair is a mess, so I don't think I should
He asked me to repay my debt	But my money was all far too wet
I wish that I was much more handsome	But she swapped it for my can of Spam
I really need a new steam iron	But the man on the corner wouldn't give a receipt
The police want me to take off my hood	But with me and my car there won't be room
Cavemen Britons didn't use a comb	From the door to the priest was more than a mile
I nearly bought the whole of Oxford Street	Having neat hair was invented in Rome
Mary had a little lamb	I shouldn't have done it, without a doubt
The tarantula asked to be let out	I will do one this evening if I have the time
He asked to join me in my tomb	Smells and looks better if you stick on a plum
A typical hitchhiker's thumb	Then my wife would pay my ransom

*Check above.*

Write a rhyming word in each gap below, thinking about the pronunciation and meaning, making sure that you don't pronounce the silent letters in the words at the end of the lines.

There are many mountains that I want to climb  
I will do one this evening if I have the \_\_\_\_\_  
My birthday treat is one chocolate biscuit  
But I'm on a diet – I shouldn't risk \_\_\_\_\_

I shouted out for a hip-hop \_\_\_\_\_  
But from the street there was no answer  
It took some time to walk down the aisle  
From the door to the priest was more than a \_\_\_\_\_

The priest asked us to sing a hymn  
But it was difficult to do both that and \_\_\_\_\_  
He asked me to repay my debt  
But my money was all far too \_\_\_\_\_

I wish that I was much more handsome  
Then my wife would pay my \_\_\_\_\_  
I really need a new steam iron  
But instead I bought another \_\_\_\_\_

The police want me to take off my \_\_\_\_\_  
But my hair is a mess, so I don't think I should  
Cavemen didn't use a comb  
Having neat hair was invented in \_\_\_\_\_

I nearly bought the whole of Oxford \_\_\_\_\_  
But the man on the corner wouldn't give a receipt  
Mary had a little lamb  
But she swapped it for my can of \_\_\_\_\_

The tarantula asked to be let \_\_\_\_\_  
I shouldn't have done it, without a doubt  
He asked to join me in my tomb  
But with me and my car there won't be \_\_\_\_\_

A typical hitchhiker's thumb  
Smells and looks better if you stick on a \_\_\_\_\_

-----fold-----

Use these mixed answers to help:

Rome	Spam	Street
answer	hood	it
lion	mile	out
plum	ransom	room
swim	time	wet

Write a rhyming word with a silent letter in each gap below.

There are many mountains that I want to \_\_\_\_\_  
I will do one this evening if I have the time  
    My birthday treat is one chocolate \_\_\_\_\_  
    But I'm on a diet – I shouldn't risk it  
I shouted out for a new dancer  
But from the street there was no \_\_\_\_\_  
    It took some time to walk down the \_\_\_\_\_  
    From the door to the priest was more than a mile  
The priest asked us to sing a \_\_\_\_\_  
But it was difficult to do both that and swim  
    He asked me to repay my \_\_\_\_\_  
    But my money was all far too wet  
I wish that I was much more \_\_\_\_\_  
Then my wife would pay my ransom  
    I really need a new steam \_\_\_\_\_  
    But instead I bought another lion  
The police want me to take off my hood  
But my hair is a mess, so I don't think I \_\_\_\_\_  
    Cavemen didn't use a \_\_\_\_\_  
    Having neat hair was invented in Rome  
I nearly bought the whole of Oxford Street  
But the man on the corner wouldn't give a \_\_\_\_\_  
    Mary had a little \_\_\_\_\_  
    But she swapped it for my can of Spam  
The tarantula asked to be let out  
I shouldn't have done it, without a \_\_\_\_\_  
    He asked to join me in my \_\_\_\_\_  
    But with me and my car there won't be room  
A typical hitchhiker's \_\_\_\_\_  
Is much improved if you stick on a plum

-----fold-----

Use these mixed answers to help:

aisle	answer	biscuit
climb	comb	debt
doubt	handsome	hymn
iron	lamb	receipt
should	thumb	tomb