

## Poetry in “Locomotion”

### Objectives

- Read poem chorally
- Explore use of exclamation point
- Work cooperatively to create original rhymes using poetry frame

### Materials

- TOOT! TOOT! POEM — *class set + transparency (Optional)*
- TOOT! TOOT! POETRY FRAME — *class set + transparency (Optional)*
- Crayons or Markers (for illustration purposes) — *one pack per student (Optional)*
- Dictionaries (student copies) — *one per four students*
- Overhead projector — *one (Optional)*

### Procedure

1. Have students work in groups of four.
2. Distribute TOOT! TOOT! POEM to each student and read poem in a variety of ways. Examples include:
  - whole class
  - girls/boys
  - even birthday months/odd birthday months
3. Discuss the poem (e.g., What happened to the peanut? Why is the poem funny? Why are there exclamation points in this poem?).



*Illuminate the transparency.*

4. Distribute TOOT! TOOT! POETRY FRAME to each student. Inform students that they are going to create their own poems using this frame. Guide them through the frame so that they may eventually do a/some poems in cooperative groups.

**Toot! Toot!**

**The (food) sat on a railroad track**

**(feeling/doing/Rhymes with end of line 4)**

**The five-fifteen came rushing by**

**Toot! Toot! (what food ends up to be! Rhymes with end of line 2)**

An example:

A tomato sat on a railroad track,  
twirling her vine into a loop.  
The five-fifteen came rushing by,  
Toot! Toot! Tomato Soup!

5. Brainstorm foods and what they could turn into after being run over by the train. For example: tomatoes to catsup, fruits to jams, grapes to raisins, vegetables to soup.
6. When you feel like your students are ready to create in their groups, send them on their way with their poetry frames and a dictionary.
7. After poems are written allow time for students to share them.
8. **Optional**  
Students illustrate poems and create a class book or bulletin board display.



*Illuminate the transparency.*



*One of the author's students made a grape into wine! It was perfect because they live in wine country!*

## **TOOT! TOOT! POEM**

A peanut sat on the railroad track,  
Its heart was all a-flutter;  
The five-fifteen came rushing by —  
Toot! Toot! **Peanut butter!**

A lemon sat on the railroad track,  
Trying to get some shade;  
The five-fifteen came rushing by —  
Toot! Toot! **Lemonade!**

Some green peas sat on the railroad track,  
Together in a group;  
The five-fifteen came rushing by —  
Toot! Toot! **Split-pea soup!**

An apple sat on the railroad track,  
Waiting to get across;  
The five-fifteen came rushing by —  
Toot! Toot! **Applesauce!**

A potato sat on the railroad track,  
Blinking both its eyes;  
The five-fifteen came rushing by —  
Toot! Toot! **Sliced french fries!**

*Anonymous*

**TOOT! TOOT! POETRY FRAME**

**Toot! Toot!**

The \_\_\_\_\_ sat on a railroadtrack,

\_\_\_\_\_.

The five-fifteen came rushing by,

Toot! Toot! \_\_\_\_\_!

By \_\_\_\_\_

