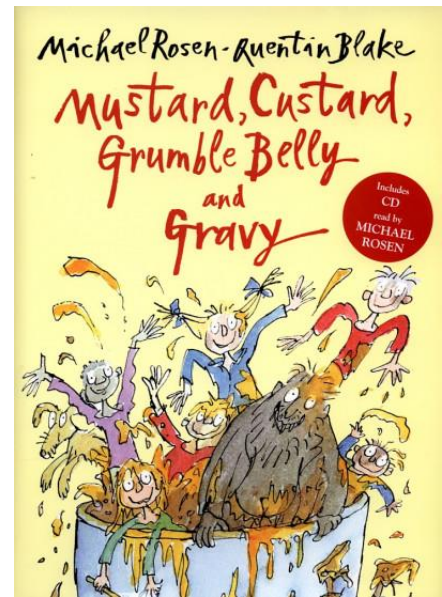


### ***Mustard, Custard, Grumble Belly and Gravy*** by Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake

Have a go at these creative activities at home or at school. Visit our website for many more ideas and activities linked to our other featured books!

[www.thechildrensbookshow.com/news](http://www.thechildrensbookshow.com/news)



### **Down Behind the Dustbin**

Follow the steps below to make a moving picture to illustrate the poems 'Jim' or 'Sid'.

1. Using one piece of card, draw, paint and cut out the dustbin and the dog. Also cut a length of card measuring 2cm by 15cm.
2. Stick the dog to the top of the strip of card. Don't glue the legs down.
3. On the other piece of card. Draw and paint the background, including the boy.
4. Once the paint is dry, ask an adult to cut two parallel slits across the background, as shown below in image 4.
5. Insert the strip of card between the slits so that the dog slides from side-to-side.
6. Finally, position the dustbin to the right-hand side of the background and stick only the top of it to the background. Use the sticky tack so that the bin stands away from the page. Place the dog behind the bin and then, slide it along.

#### **You will need:**

- Two pieces of white card
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Craft knife
- Pencil
- Paint
- Glue
- Sticky tack



Alternatively, write your own poem and illustrate it with a moving picture. You could use a simple slider mechanism like the one above, or use a split pin to create a moving part.

### ***Kay***

*At the park on Saturday  
I met a girl called Kay,  
Even though we'd never  
met,  
She still asked me to play.*

The moving picture to illustrate this poem was simply made by attaching the see-saw to the background with a split pin.



## Conversation Poem

Write a conversation poem based on 'Nursery'. Think of a significant memory you have about an experience where you came home upset, angry, embarrassed etc. Then write about the experience as a conversation.

### Further Activities to Try

1. Choose a poem from the collection to perform to an audience. Listen to Michael reading his poems on the CD and visit the link below to watch his tips for performing poetry.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvV23xoZRkl>

2. Extend the poem 'Stamp Stamp Stamp' by adding additional verses built around other verbs. For example: Jump Jump Jump; Roll Roll Roll; Clap Clap Clap. Add actions to each verse.

3. Create a picture book by illustrating each stanza of 'The Longest Journey in the World'.

4. 'Boat': as the poem suggests, 'Make a boat from sticks and cloth – put it on the water to see it float'.

### Football

*My mum says*

*once I came home from football  
with an angry look on my face.*

*"What's the matter?" she said.*

*I shrugged my shoulders.*

*"What's the matter?" she said.*

*I shrugged my shoulders.*

*"What's the matter?"*

*"I got sent off."*

*"Why did you get sent off?"*

*I shrugged my shoulders.*

*"Why did you get sent off?"*

*"'Cos I got a red card"*

*"Okay, I gathered that," she said,*

*"But what did you do?"*

*"I slide-tackled the ref."*

*Mum's face turned*

*as red as the red card.*

*She sent me to bed*

*and banned me from the X-box*

*for a whole month!*

## More Poetry Ideas

Have a go at writing your own poems, based on some of those in 'Mustard, Custard, Grumble Belly and Gravy'. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

1. Use the same rhyming pattern and rhythm to write and illustrate a poem based on 'Johnny'. Start by thinking of a name, a verb and a place. Then think about what that person might do at that place. Repeat Michael's original line. Finally, think of a rhyme to use in the final line.

*Suzie flew to Spain  
to meet her friend Miguel  
but she flew back the very next day  
because she felt unwell.*

2. Write your own version of 'Don't'. This poem is full of rules – a list of increasingly ridiculous rules which adults impose upon children. Get your own back and write a list of ridiculous rules for your parents, or teachers!

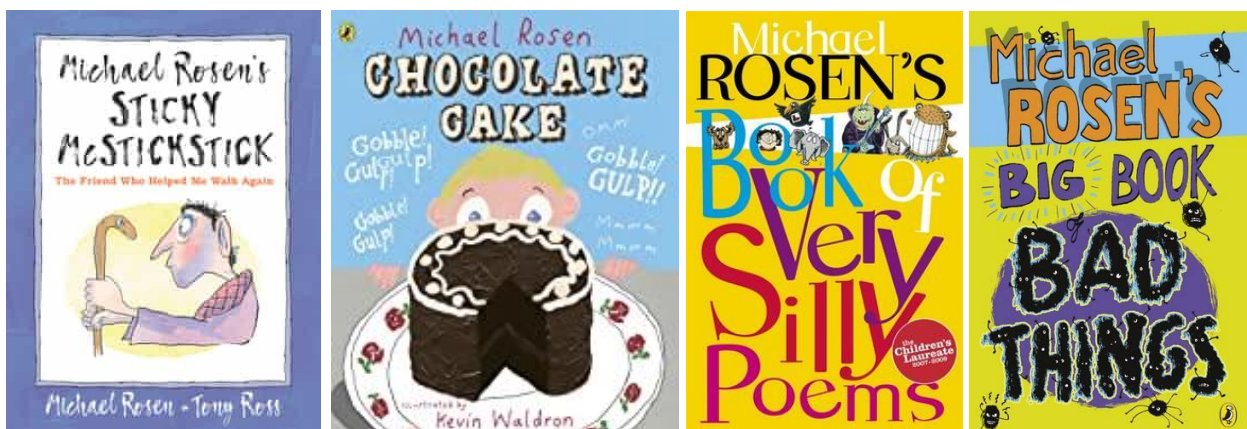
3. Write a poem based on 'This is the Hand'. You could replace 'hand' with a different body part (e.g. foot, mouth, ears, eyes).

4. Write a question and answer poem based on 'Who? Why? Where? What?' Make a list of questions and responses – the sillier the better!

5. Subscribe to Michael's YouTube channel to watch his poetry masterclass videos and see him perform hundreds of his other poems and stories.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7D-mXO4kk-XWvH6IBXdrPw>

## More Books by Michael Rosen



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