Name _____ **Date** _____

FALL INTO RHYME
PREWRITING

The season of autumn (also called Fall) usually begins on September 22. It is a colorful time of year. Here is how an English poet named Shelley described autumn:

I love all that you love,
Spirit of Delight;
The fresh Earth in new leaves dressed,
And the starry night;
Autumn evening and the morn
When the golden mists are born.

Not all poetry has to rhyme, but rhyming can add to the enjoyment of writing and reading poetry. There are many rhyming patterns that work well. Not all lines have to rhyme. In the poem above, can you find the lines that rhyme?

If you said lines 2 and 4, then lines 5 and 6, you are right!

It can be fun to play with words and create rhymes. Autumn is a good subject because there are so many colorful words that can be used to describe it. Fill the box below with as many words you can think of that have something to do with the season of Autumn. A few words have already been put in the box for you. Add as many as you can.

gold brown chilly

How many words were you able to put into the box? If you wish, you can share with your classmates. You can add some of their words to your box, and they can use yours.

Let's take some of your Autumn words and find rhymes for them. Choose at least ten words. Write them on the lines below. Then, next to each, write down as many rhymes as you can think of. The first two are done for you.

	Autumn Word	*Rhyming Words*
1.	gold	bold, hold, fold, cold, scold, tolled
2.	fall	ball, mall, call, hall, wall, tall
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

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FALL INTO RHYME
FIRST DRAFT

There are many rhyme schemes you could use in a poem about Autumn. One is to have the *first two* lines rhyme with each other, and then to rhyme lines *three* and *four*. This is called AABB, as in this verse:

Autumn is a lovely season,	**A**
And that is the only reason	**A**
Why I write this silly verse—	**B**
Winter, summer, spring are worse!	**B**

Or, line *one* could rhyme with line *three*, and line *two* rhyme with line *four*. This is called ABAB, as in this poem:

Rainbow-colored leaves are falling from the trees,	**A**
They do a little dance upon the air,	**B**
Shimmering and whirling, twisting in the breeze,	**A**
Breaking off until the limbs are bare.	**B**

These are the simplest rhymes. Choose one of these (or any other kind of rhyme you like) to write a poem about Autumn, as follows:

1. Your poem should have at least four lines. You can make it much longer, if you wish.
2. Look at your list of rhyming words in Activity 12A. These will give you lots of ideas for your poem.
3. Your poem can be serious or it can be silly as in the first example above.
4. Write a first draft of your poem below. Concentrate on getting down your ideas and rhymes. You can edit and fix it up later. (You can put a title on the first line.)

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FALL INTO RHYME
REVISING AND WRITING A FINAL COPY

Here are some suggestions for making changes in your poem about Autumn:

1. Use sensory language. Words that appeal to the five senses (sight, sound, touch, taste, smell) can make a poem more vivid. Colors are good—they involve sight. Examples of other sensory words are *ring*, *chime*, *soft*, *velvety*, *sweet*, *smoky*, etc. Can you add any sensory words to your poem?
2. Strong, active verbs such as *whirl*, *twirl*, *dance*, *shimmer*, *leap*, etc., can make your poem exciting. Can you add any active verbs?
3. Do at least some of the lines in your poem rhyme? Try reading it aloud to get a better sense of how well the rhyme works.

Write the final copy of your poem below. (If you like, you can illustrate it in the space below.)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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