



Colorful Imaginative Exercise from Wiser Now:

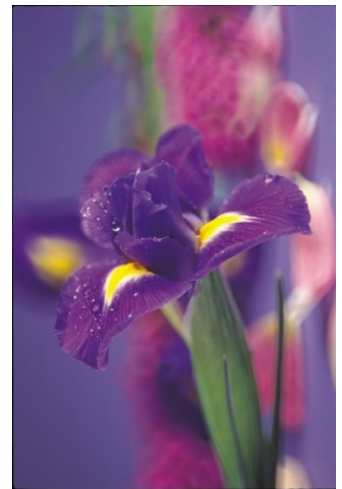
Poems using colors have always been around. One of the first rhymes many of us learned began, “Roses are **red**; violets are **blue** . . .” Nevertheless, a great way to use your imagination is to think about every object that’s red or blue and turn those thoughts into a poem.

More challenging is to take one of the three common colors – **purple, orange** and **silver** -- that has *no* common English rhymes and create a poem from your associations with that color. One solution is to create rhymes with the nouns that *follow* purple:

- Purple jam
- Purple (toe)nails
- Purple ink
- Violets in spring
- A royal purple cape
- Purple clover

That could work well with the examples above, but purple is perhaps most common in flowers. Rhymes with aster, crocus, and pansy may be possible, but what can you find to rhyme with purple:

- Clematis
- Dahlia
- Delphinium
- Hyacinth
- Hydrangea
- Lavender
- Limonium and
- Wisteria?



The answer lies with Ogden Nash (1902 – 1971) who always took the light verse road by making up words to serve his purpose. For example:



A wonderful bird is a pelican,
His bill will hold more than his belican.
He can take in his beak
Food enough for a week;
But I’m damned if I see how the helican.

Can you make up colorful light-hearted words, too?