



Around Valentine's Day get hold of Jean Marzollo's book, I Love You: A Rebus Poem. Read it to your students, then, after putting it on chart paper, have your students read it chorally with you several times.

Have students write their own version of the poem. Here's one way to do it:

1. Have students choose three words (nouns work best) that rhyme (e.g. store, core, sore).
2. For each rhyming word have students think of another word that goes with it in some way. It could be a part-to-whole, an opposite, a synonym, or something that is associated with the word (e.g. shopper-store, apple-core, band aid-sore).
3. Now have students use Marzollo's pattern to make their own poem.

Here's mine:

Every shopper loves a store.  
Every apple loves a core.  
Every band-aid loves a sore.  
And I love you!

4. Collect students' stories and put them together into a book of I Love You poems. Make a copy of each book for your students to take home and read to their parents.