

# Trend Task: Feeding Frenzy



Approach: Independent

Focus: Poetry writing

Resources: Video recording on laptop computer, 4 "Things to think about" cards, 4 individual answer sheets

Year: 4 & 8

## Questions / instructions:

**This activity uses the computer.**

In this activity you will be writing a poem about seagulls feeding. Before you write your poem you will see a video which will help you to think of some good words and ideas.

**Hand out individual answer sheets.**

You can write your ideas on the page that says "Ideas" - but this is not your poem.

**Point out "Ideas" page.**

We'll watch the video now, and you can try to write down some good words and ideas for your poem.

**Click the Feeding Frenzy button.**

### VIDEO SCRIPT:

You're going to start this activity by seeing and hearing some poems.

You will notice that the poems have been written in different ways.

(Three poems displayed one at a time and read aloud.)

In this activity you are going to write a poem.

To help you get started with your ideas, you'll see a short video showing seagulls. As you watch the seagulls, try to think of some good words and ideas that you could use in your poem. The video will start now.

(Video of seagulls fighting over a parcel of chips.)

Now it's time for you to think about your poem. Here are some things to think about: ("Things to Think About" card read aloud.)

Here is the video again. (Seagull video repeated.)



- THINGS TO THINK ABOUT**
- How you will **set out** your poem. (Don't use pictures)
  - What you will **say** about the seagulls.
  - Making the poem **interesting** for others to read
    - good words
    - good ideas.
  - Making sure your poem fits with the **video**.

**Feet**  
by John Parker

We can scratch  
we can bounce,  
we can cling  
and run  
and pounce.

On the ends of our legs,  
we have hooves and claws,  
wagging flippers,  
furry paws –  
we're glad our feet  
don't look like yours!

**Jet-Whales**  
by John Parker

I think that jetplanes  
have tails  
like whales.

Jet-whales surf waves of clouds  
dive in jet-streams,  
and swim the huge, high  
oceans of the sky.

Sometimes they trail a white wake  
as they make  
their piercing jet-whale song.

Even when they've gone  
I hear them singing,  
singing strong and long,  
strong and long.

**Write a Poem**  
by Deena Wallace

Write a poem –  
make it whistle,  
make it whisper  
make it whirl.

Write a poem –  
make it happy,  
make it hiss,  
make it howl.

Write a poem –  
make it spooky,  
make it squirm,  
make it squawl.

Write a poem –  
make it yodel,  
make it yelp,  
make it yours.

### Line form:

(followed poetic conventions)

consistently  
mostly  
somewhat  
not at all

% response  
2006 ('02)  
year 4 year 8

9 (10)	26 (22)
16 (12)	26 (35)
29 (28)	28 (29)
46 (50)	20 (14)

### Sense of "feeding frenzy" conveyed:

extremely strong  
quite strong  
moderate  
very little or none

2 (0)	11 (8)
8 (6)	23 (24)
26 (20)	35 (26)
64 (74)	31 (42)

### Clarity and coherence:

very good  
good  
moderate  
low

4 (5)	21 (18)
26 (18)	41 (39)
40 (42)	27 (31)
30 (35)	11 (12)

### Appeal to wider audience: (appropriate to share, read aloud, relates to seagulls)

excellent/very good  
good  
moderate  
low

2 (0)	14 (11)
16 (14)	33 (26)
34 (29)	34 (40)
48 (57)	19 (23)

### Total score:

8–12  
6–7  
4–5  
2–3  
0–1

6 (3)	33 (31)
14 (12)	23 (15)
16 (17)	19 (25)
31 (27)	15 (21)
33 (41)	10 (8)

## Subgroup Analyses:

Year 4

Score

Range

Boys

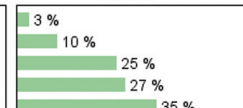
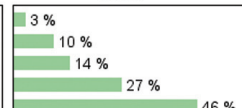
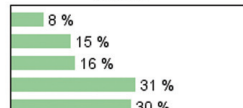
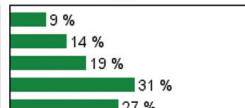
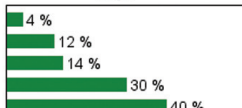
Girls

Pakeha

Māori

Pasifika

8 - 12  
6 - 7  
4 - 5  
2 - 3  
0 - 1



Year 8

Score

Range

Boys

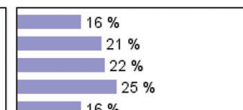
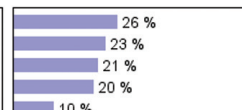
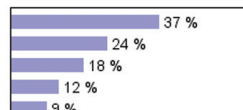
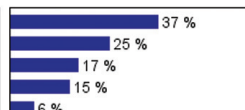
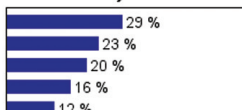
Girls

Pakeha

Māori

Pasifika

8 - 12  
6 - 7  
4 - 5  
2 - 3  
0 - 1



## Commentary:

On average, year 8 students performed much better than year 4 students on this poetry-writing task. There was a slight improvement between 2002 and 2006 at both year levels, and only a modest difference in the performances of boys and girls at year 8 level.

## YEAR 4 – MID RANGE

### Title: Frensefedin

Secols (Seagulls) fight like cats and dogs  
Secols fly like Plans (planes).  
Secols Screch like cats and dogs  
Swoms (Swarms) of Secols are fun to chas abawt.  
Secols are fun I saye  
Seagulls eat eney (any) food that thay see.

### Title: Seaguls squake

Seagulls Squake while  
eating fish and chips  
and munching down lunch  
gulls from far and wide  
use there beak to peak there  
lunch, lunch, lunch.  
learking around for more to eat  
Seagulls Squake

### Title: Feeding Frenzy

There are some seagulls fighting  
Over chips screeing grasping for  
Their chips eating fast before  
Others get Theirs scrething, gasping  
Catching more and more jet planes  
Coming for lunch. Chasing each other  
The end

### Title: Yum Fish and Chips

Seagulls  
Enjoying  
All  
Gustly  
Ugly  
Lumpy  
Lush  
Scraps!

### Title: thouth the cloud

I sort I saw a bird. But  
it was a seagull down  
it went thouth the clouds  
he saw a fest but he sort  
it was a bread thous and  
of bird flying down like a  
rocket

## YEAR 4 – HIGH RANGE

### Title: Seagulls feeding

While seagulls are feeding  
They screach  
They squak, They scream like hawks  
While seagulls are feeding  
It's nasty work  
They fight  
They snatch  
Like opening a hatch

### Title: Seagulls At Feed

Seagulls, Seagulls everywhere,  
Screeching,  
Squaking,  
Squealing  
A huge white cloud drops down  
To rest  
It swirls  
Soars and  
Snatches  
It's favourite meal is here  
The noise meter reaches 100  
A fight  
A squabble  
An argument  
Then as if the leader called Up up and away  
They left  
Licking their lips

### Title: Feeding Frenzy

Squarking constantly  
Envy is what possesses them  
Actually deserving of someones  
dinner  
Greedy monsters sore and swoop  
Untrained flyers always hungry  
Lurking around staring  
With their beady eyes  
Lovely but always screaming  
So demanding

### Title: Seaguls Feeding

Seaguls  
Squaking,  
Screeching  
Scrambleing trying to get a  
bite to  
eat.  
Seaguls  
Flapping,  
Fighting  
Figuring out the best way  
to get to the food.

### Title: Scwoky birds

Segals scwork and scwork  
They fly and dive all around  
Eating all your lovely food  
Flapping wings so big and strong  
Hungry scavangers ripping paper  
Strong beaks to eat the food  
Not wipraining but so loud  
As they weil around you head  
And then get ready to dive and eat your food

## Feeding Frenzy : Exemplars

### YEAR 8 – MID RANGE

**Title:** Sighting Seagulls

Seagulls,  
Seagulls as far as I can see,  
Seagulls,  
Seagulls are stealing food off of me,  
Seagulls,  
Seagulls are fighting,  
Seagulls,  
Seagulls are ready for sighting  
Seagulls,  
Seagulls can be pesky critters,  
Seagulls,  
Seagulls ate our fritters!  
Seagulls,  
Seagulls were biting my hand,  
Seagulls,  
Seagulls are in my band!

**Title:** Sea guls feeding

As loads come flying down  
Making lots of sound  
Scratching for some food not to  
Miss out  
All just coming in crowding in  
Grabing a couple of the chips  
With there orange beaks then scram  
Off the table then back for more

**Title:** seagulls

Squiking seagulls  
Eating wanting food.  
Angre seagulls made with eatother  
Get me food  
Un pulite  
Lunch I nead lunch  
Lashing  
Seagulls  
Eating  
Attacking  
Tired  
Intelligince  
Nastey  
Eluding

**Title:** Seagulls

Flying around like wild beasts of the sky  
Skauking and screeching all over a warm meal  
Fighting each other for bigger pieces.  
Again and again they'll come back for more  
Only to find there's nothing left.

**Title:** None

irritating, hungry, noisy bunch  
Always wanting a little crunch.  
cawing, clawing squealing and talking  
never actually doing much walking  
Flying creatures in their feature  
sometimes end up on a T-shirt  
Tourists try to feed their bellies  
but this is what happens on Teli.

### YEAR 8 – HIGH RANGE

**Title:** Feeding Frenzy

Sitting, flying  
Swooping diving  
nipping each other for food  
Packing, scratching  
cawing and flapping  
and being so awfully rude.

**Title:** Feeding Frenzy

Savaging seagulls sweeping through the sky  
Were wondering when is the first one gona die.  
There fighting like mungruels all packed in a bunch.  
There fighting for survival all over some lunch.  
Im wondering why can't they share.  
But I can tell they don't even care  
Oh my gosh they are so rude!

**Title:** Sea Gulls

A cloud of white rolls in.  
Lunging down sharply  
Ruffled feathers attack  
Gobbling despretely  
Intense fighting, pleading to eat  
Food evaporates  
Pudgy gulls trudge off.

**Title:** Mine!

Mine! Mine! Mine!  
They seem to say  
As they strike again  
And again,  
Bouncing back  
Like a ball and string  
Wings flapping, flying  
In and out,  
No one wants to miss out.  
The smell of Fish and Chips  
Is clear in the air  
There's no stopping them now,  
Now that they have,  
Grabbed their chance,  
Food is food,  
And they want it,  
Oh, they want it bad.  
Mine! Mine! Mine!  
They say,  
Mine! Mine! Mine!

**Title:** Squaking Seagull

As I look out towards the beach I see  
Seagulls fighting for food  
Fiesty seagulls squirming through trying to get out of the crowd.  
Seagulls yodelling, singing there ear-piercing songs  
Whirling round and round and round trying to get the food first.  
I see seagulls pouncing on each other making the food there own.  
Swarming through trying to see what the commossion is all about.  
Visious, angry, hungry seagulls  
Awaiting something more for there hungry stomachs  
Embracing the adoring taste of fish + chips.