Reading Model

Objectives

Students will
- understand and analyze elements of poetry
- read and analyze a poem

Preteach

Read with a Purpose Have students write predictions about the message of each poem, based on the titles. After they read, have students verify or revise their predictions.

Direct Teach

Guided Practice

? Reading Focus

What else does the title suggest about the subject of the poem? ***Possible response:*** *It suggests that the poem is about riding something.*

? Literary Focus

How would this poem differ if it were a narrative poem? ***Possible response:*** *It would tell a story with a beginning, a middle and an end.*

? Reading Focus

What message might the poet intend? ***Possible response:*** *One has to give up some things to gain others. In this case, the rider has to give up control of the horse to earn it later.*

SKILLS FOCUS pp. 678–679

Literary Skills
- Understand and analyze elements of poetry.

Reading Skills
- Use strategies to read and analyze a poem.

Vocabulary Skills
- Use academic vocabulary appropriately.

SKILLS IN ACTION

Reading Model

POETRY



Read with a Purpose Read these two poems to discover the writers' messages.

Riding Lesson

by **Henry Taylor**

Reading Focus

Reading a Poem The title gives us a clue that this poem will be about learning some kind of lesson.

I learned two things
from an early riding teacher.
He held a nervous filly°
in one hand and gestured
with the other, saying, "Listen.
Keep one leg on one side,
the other leg on the other side,
and your mind in the middle."
He turned and mounted.
She took two steps, then left
the ground, I thought for good.
But she came down hard, humped
her back, swallowed her neck,
and threw her rider as you'd
throw a rock. He rose, brushed
his pants and caught his breath,
and said, "See that's the way
to do it. When you see
they're gonna throw you, get off."

Literary Focus

Forms of Poetry Because the poem does not rhyme or have a regular meter, it is a free-verse poem. Because it expresses an idea rather than tells a story, it is a lyric poem.

Reading Focus

Re-reading Re-read the riding instructor's comment to the speaker, and think about what broader lesson, or message, the poet might intend.

3. **filly:** young female horse.

Selection Readability	
Easily Accessible **Accessible** Challenging	familiar syntax; familiar context; accessible vocabulary; several examples of figurative language
Lexile	**N/A**

Selection Summary

In "Riding Lesson," the speaker recalls two lessons learned from a riding teacher. The speaker learns that riding requires focus and concentration. The speaker also learns that sometimes the horse is in control.