

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## NUMBERS POEM

1. Pick a topic for your poem. Your teacher might assign one. If not, write about your breakfast, the last game you played, your pet, or what you see out the classroom window.
2. How many letters are in your full name? That's the number of lines in your poem.
3. Roll a die. The number you roll is the number of words in each line. So if your name is Justin and you roll a 5, your poem will have 6 lines (the number of letters in Justin) with 5 words (the number you rolled) in each line.
4. Write a rough draft on the back of this paper. Don't rhyme. Just try to make the moment come alive.

NOTE: Try not to use words like a, an, and the in your poem to get your word count right. Instead, use words that add more description, feeling, or meaning to your poem.

**EXAMPLE:** Lauren picked the topic of kickball for her poem rough draft. She rolled a 3. Here is Lauren's rough draft.

### DANGEROUS KICKBALL

Bouncy red ball  
sproings toward second.  
I race home,  
shoe flapping off,  
and trip hard.  
Orange. Clay. Mouth.



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by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Steven Salerno

poet and writer for kids

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