**Poetry Terms**

**Figurative Language**is writing or speech not meant to be taken literally. Poets use figures of speech to state ideas in new ways.

* **Metaphors** describe one thing as if it were something else. *The house was a zoo this morning!*
* **Personification** gives human qualities to something that is not human. *The cars growled in the traffic.*
* **Similes** use *like* or *as* to compare two apparently unlike things. *He stormed into the meeting like a tornado.*
* A **symbol** is anything that represents something else. For example, a dove is a common symbol for peace.

**Sound Devices**enhance a poem’s mood and meaning.

* **Alliteration** is the repetition of consonant sounds in the beginning of words, as in *slippery slope.*
* **Repetition** is the use of any element of language—a sound, word, phrase, clause, or sentence—more than once.
* **Assonance** is the repetition of vowel sounds followed by different consonants in stressed syllables, as in *blade* and *maze.*
* **Consonance** is the repetition of similar consonant sounds at the ends of accented syllables, as in *wind* and *sand.*
* **Onomatopoeia** is the use of words that imitate sounds. *Crash, bang,* and *hiss* are all examples of onomatopoeia.
* **Rhyme** is the repetition of sounds at the ends of words, as in *speech* and *teach.*
* **Meter** is the rhythmical pattern in a poem.