

Name: _____

Teacher Notes

YouTube Link:

- Poetry Pause with Dr. Kim version includes a short interactive mindfulness introduction before the poem: <https://youtu.be/QEDmdR7rab0>

Use the poem "My Sister's Zoo" in various ways:

- As a **bell ringer** or **post-recess moment of focus**. Let the video play while you tidy or prep.
- To complement **Science and Math** assignments and activities, including measuring, weighing, ordering and **"Zoo in a Jar"** projects.
- **"I wonder..." questions**: What are 3 "I wonder..." questions you could ask about this poem?
- What do all the animals in this poem have in common?
- What could we keep in a **mini zoo** in our classroom? Would a polar bear fit? Is a zebra a good idea?
- Create a list of other animals that would not fit in a jar. Then/Or, create a list of animals that would fit in a jar.
- **Order the animals in size (height and/or length) and weight. Inquiry questions**: Would a zebra fit in a house? Would it fit in a car? Would a rhino fit in a classroom? etc.
- **Measure** students and compare them to different animals: Am I taller or shorter than a zebra? A rhino? Etc.
- Use **string to measure** different lengths.
- **Draw images** or **create collages** of a "zoo in a jar."

If you have questions or would like to share feedback, please get in touch:

kimtharrisonwrites@gmail.com

Happy Teaching, Kim x

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My Sister's Zoo

By Kim T. Harrison

You won't find a crocodile in my sister's zoo

You won't find a whale

Or a kangaroo

You won't find a panda

Chomping on bamboo

Or a hippo or a hog

Or some cows who moo

You won't find an elephant

Steering a canoe

Or a dolphin or a tiger

Or a seal who grew

You won't find a chimpanzee

Tying up his shoe

Or a rhino or a zebra

Or a wolf named Blue

And you certainly won't find

In my sister's zoo

All the children in this school

Not them, not me, not you!

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If sharing this resource with other educators, please include link to my website: kimtharrison.ca and/or my full name, Kim T. Harrison

About Dr. Kim

Dr. Kim's full name is Kim T. Harrison. She is a writer, poet, and teacher, who was born in England but moved to Canada a long time ago and now lives on the beautiful island of Newfoundland.

Dr. Kim can't help fix a broken leg or a sore throat, but she can prescribe poetry reading and writing activities! She's a "doctor" because she has a PhD in French literature and cultural studies. This means she's read and written about A LOT of books and poems. When she was a kid, her favourite book had lots of different poems in it. She still reads these poems today and now writes her own because she loves the sound and feel of words, and the magic that happens when those words work together to create new worlds.

Find out more at: **KimTHarrison.ca**

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@KimTHarrison/videos>

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