

[Insectlopedia](#), by Douglas Florian, is a wonderful book of wordplay and poetry—all inspired by the names and activities of bugs and insects.

Inspired by the book and the [Poems to Bug Your Readers Lesson](#) at the WritingFix website, these two fourth graders were inspired to write the following poems.

As they wrote and revised, they worked especially hard on their word choice and idea development skills.

Read both poems, then work with a partner to find where you think each writer excels with word choice or idea development. Be prepared to share your findings with the class.

The Vampire Bat

by Andrew, fourth grader

A vampire bat is whack
when it gets a snack
it sucks for luck
as it gets its delicious,
nutritious blood
so good, so tasty,
such a
a wonderful snack.



The Gnat Will Not!

by Saskia, fourth grader

The Gnat
will not
leave you alone,

The Gnat
will not
leave your home.

The Gnat
will not
stop annoying humanity,

The Gnat
will not
stop filling your life with insanity.

The Gnat
will not
take a good long break for recess,

The Gnat
will not
give you a nice break from your stress.

The Gnat
will always
haunt your home,

The Gnat
will never
ever be alone.

The Gnat
will bug you
day and night,

But that's a gnat,
and I'm always right!

