

Hello! And Happy National Poetry Month!

As the Poet Laureate for the State of Kansas, I hope that everyone has a chance to read and even write a poem this April.

This poem and the fill-in-the-blank prompt is designed for teens/young adults. Think about a food that you love and always look forward to!

If you would like to do so, please feel free to share your results by posting on social media and tagging: @poetlaureateofkansas on Facebook and/or @poetlaureateofkansas_ on Instagram. I would love to see everyone's wonderful poems!

—Traci Brimhall, Poet Laureate of Kansas

Here's a sample poem that you can read to get you started:

NECTARINE SEASON

after Aimee Nezhukumatathil's "One Bite"

The right nectarine can change a person.
Smooth as a cheek, heavy as a baseball,
the right one is ripe and has been ready

all afternoon. I run the knife through
the cleft and twist it into halves, pry
the pit out with my fingernail. Its tough

stain stares at me like a red eye. Then,
with the patience of a mother, I cut
the soft halves into eight even smiles.

They sweeten with every bite. How long
before I forget what July tastes like? How
many dreams until it's nectarine season again?



(food title)

One bite of a _____ can change you.
(food)

_____ as _____, _____ as _____
(adjective) (noun) (adjective) (noun)

The best one is _____ is ready _____
(adjective) (time of day/year)

I _____ the _____ into it and _____ it.
(verb) (noun) (verb)

I eat it _____.
(with hands? Knife and fork? Bite into it?)

It tastes like _____.
(complete the simile)

How long before _____?

How many times _____?