

# Creative Composing



*Compose* means “to put together,” “to make up,” “to create.” Use your creative abilities by doing this Try-It.

## 1. Compose a Song

Make up a song for a special day or occasion: a rainy day song, a campfire song, a holiday song, a silly song, a song for a special Girl Scout ceremony. If you play an instrument, make up a song to sing with the instrument. Sing your song alone or with friends.

## 2. Compose Music for Instruments

Compose a tune for an instrument. It can be an instrument you have made. You can form a band with others and make music together.

## 3. Compose a Poem

Poems use words in special ways. Sometimes the words rhyme, which means they sound alike—out and shout, sing and ring.

Sometimes poems have lines that rhyme:

When I grow up,  
I'll be a queen,  
And never have  
To eat a string bean.

Fill in the blanks in this rhyming poem.

I have a cat who

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It likes to play

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But not all poems do rhyme:

When I ride my bike,  
I move so quickly,  
I can't see the world.

Using images, write your own nonrhyming poem. Share your poems with your family or friends.

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## 4. Compose a Painting

Think of a special place. It can be a real place that you've seen or a make-believe place. Now draw it with a pencil on a piece of white paper.

In a painting, the things that are closest to you are usually drawn bigger. Things that are farther away are usually smaller. Look at where things are placed in your sketch. Should anything be moved? Made smaller? Made larger? Do you want to add anything to your sketch or change it in any way?

Next, think of colors. You can use watercolors, tempera, or poster paints. Hang your painting for others to see.

## 5. Compose a Play

Make up a play about something that happened to you one day—for example, in class, at home, on a picnic, on a playground, or during a vacation. Work with friends or create a one-person play. Perform your play for others to enjoy.

## 6. Compose a Message

There are many types of messages you can compose, and many ways to compose them. Choose one or more of these messages:

1. A secret message has a code that only you and the receiver of the message know. Before you write your message, you have to create a new alphabet. This is your code. The letter "A" might be a star, "B" a square, "C" a happy face, and so on.
2. Write a picture message. Cut out magazine pictures and use them to stand for words or phrases. Combine these with written words.
3. Compose a message using sign language and sign it to someone. Read about sign language on pages 86-87 of the *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook*.

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