

## Key Stage 3-5

# POETRY IN FRAMES

There are so many messages to find in old,  
treasured photographs.

### Sunny Side Up

Dad, you looked like a fried egg on your wedding day,  
in your crisp shirt and yellow tie.  
A yellow tie to your own wedding?  
A yellow tie full stop.  
I stole the photo from Mum's shell box -  
the only thing grabbed from Nigeria. The only thing  
she found herself still clutching at Dover.  
Now, it holds our passports, home insurance docs,  
spare car keys. The jewellery  
either lost or sold. I'm not sure  
if Mum has kept this photo because she glances, still.  
Or because, to her, you're just another  
yellowing deed.

by *Rachel Long*



An activity by Apples & Snakes, which produces exciting, engaging and transformative work in performance and participation.

[www.applesandsnakes.org](http://www.applesandsnakes.org)



**Have you ever stumbled across a photograph of a person you love?**

Perhaps someone you might not have seen/  
spoken to in a long time. (If not, imagine you  
have).

**Where did you find the photograph?**

Was it in a secret place?  
Is the photo black and white, sepia, or in colour?  
What do you associate these colours with?

**How did it feel to hold the photograph?**

What did it feel like to hold the photographed  
person in your hand?  
Who is taking the photograph, and why?

**What sound would the photograph make if  
it could make a sound?**

What music might be playing in its background?  
What would the photograph taste and smell like?

**Is the person/people in it saying something  
to you?**

What are their eyes like?  
Are they smiling?  
What are they wearing and doing?  
Are they standing up or sitting down?  
Are they dancing?  
What's happening in the background?  
Imagine what might be happening behind the  
person.

**Are there any questions that you want to  
ask the photograph directly?**

---

**Read the poem *Sunny Side Up* and  
discuss it as a class.**

---

**Write your own letter-poem to your  
photograph.**

A letter-poem is simply a poem that is  
addressed to a person or thing in the same  
way a letter is.  
Include at least one question for the  
photograph within the poem.

---

**Allow time to share your poems at the  
end.**