

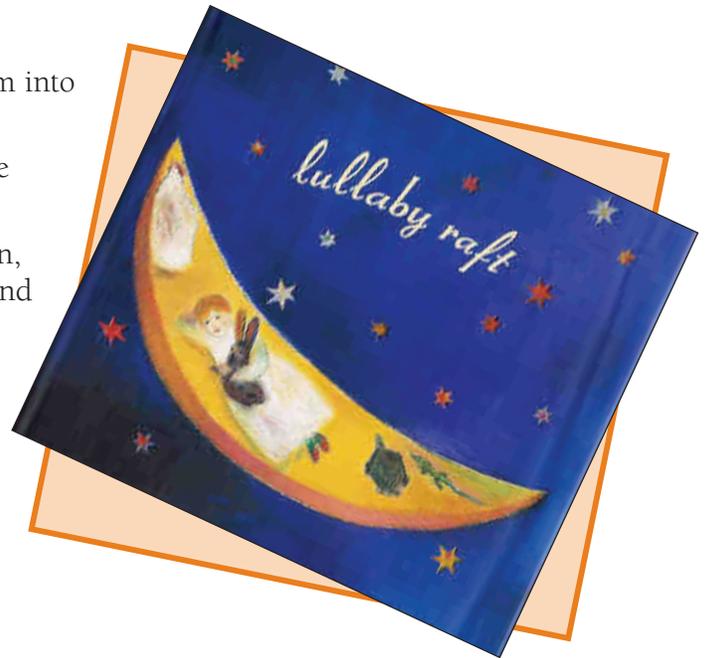
# Naomi Shihab Nye: A Reading/Writing Author Study

Author Extensions • by | Judith Snyder

## Identifying Literary Devices and Figurative Language

### Directions:

1. Cut out the stanzas below and glue them into your journal.
2. Identify the metaphors, and describe the two things that are being compared.
3. Underline the words showing alliteration, circle the words showing consonance, and box the words showing assonance.
4. Discuss: How do these literary devices produce musical language?



My lizard licks the darkness clean  
In the leaves outside my room  
My lizard zips the shadows free  
From the quiet town

He was busy all day long  
But the night gives back his song  
My lizard sips the sweetest time  
From the sleepy ground

The moon will float like a little rowboat  
On the river of the sky  
The moon will float like a little rowboat  
To the other side

—from *Lullaby Raft*, by Naomi Shihab Nye

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## Baby Radar

With this picture book by Naomi Shihab Nye (Greenwillow, 2003), all ages can see the world from a child's point of view, zipping down city streets in a stroller to the park and home again. The text has the rhythm of a free-verse poem that ebbs and flows with a spattering of rhyme.

### Activities:

- Using a document reader, ask students to identify rhyming words.
- Try looking at the world from a different point of view. Start by creating a chart that identifies what the baby in the story sees. Then list possible experiences that other *animals* might have.
- As a journal response, have students create a story or poem (e.g., "My Life as...a puppy, an ant, a mouse). Extend the activity using inanimate objects.
- Take the class outside or let students crawl under tables or chairs to experience life from a different point of view. In their journals, have students record what they see, hear, smell, or feel. They can then use the experience to write another poem.

