Strong Verb Poem

Melissa Forney illustrates the use of strong and weak verbs perfectly in her poem The Dog Ate the Bone. It’s fun, catchy and teaches all at the same time and is a perfect way to introduce kids to strong verbs.

The Dog Ate The Bone

By Melissa Forney

The dog ate the bone.

Don’t you think that’s kind of weak?

The verb here is “ate”
But it needs a little tweak.

The dog ate the bone,

Let’s try another verb.

One that’s really fun to write,

One that’s quite superb.

The dog could devour the bone,

Nibble, gnaw, or munch it.

The dog could snark-up the bone,

Gobble, bite or crunch it.

The dog could consume the bone,

Oh yes, that dog could do it,

Inhale the bone, impale the bone,

Swallow, gulp or chew it.

So when you’re writing to impress,

Don’t use a verb that fizzles.

Think of every word you know,

And give me one that sizzles!