

How do poets play with words?

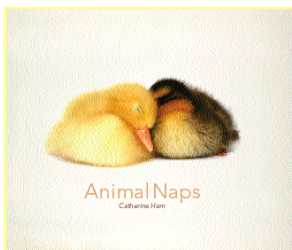
Catherine Ham, the author of **ANIMAL NAPS**, says: “I just love words. I love the sounds. I love the possibilities. I love the meanings and the wordplay. I like to find out where a particular word came from. I just adore words.” When she was younger, Ms. Ham often played word games such as the one below for fun.

* Choose a random word from a book, a newspaper, or even on a food box. How many new words can you make when you rearrange the letters in your chosen word?

* Once you have a list, can you write a line or two of poetry using some of your words?

* Below are some of the words Ms. Ham found when she chose the word “endangered” from a verse about a South American tapir on page 12 in **ANIMAL NAPS**.

a	dad	eager	greed	range
add	danger	ear	green	ranged
adder	dare	end	greened	ranger
an	dead	endanger		red
and	deed		nag	read
anger	deer	gad	near	reed
angered	den	gander	neared	rend
		gear	need	render
		geared	needed	
		gender		
		grade	ran	
		grand	rand	
		grandee	rang	



**THERE ARE
MANY MORE!!!**