‘The Field of Waterloo’ by Thomas Hardy
Pupil Worksheet 1

My creature is a ............

Idea A. Verbs for your creature
eg. I wriggle, tunnel and twist (worm)

Idea B. Where are you doing your verbs?
eg. Under a grey, stormy sky, in a field bubbling with rain and blood

Idea C. How has the battlefield affected your environment?
Describe with precise but descriptive details...
eg. My underground tunnels are smashed and littered with metal bullets

Idea D. Describe an image from the battlefield
How many adjectives can you squeeze in?
eg. Twisted barbed wire is piercing the rain-drenched ground

Now EDIT your ideas. Check with a thesaurus that you have the used the best possible words for your short, but perfect poem! Every word counts. Now you are ready to write your poem. Start a new line for each idea in turn (first line Idea A, second line Idea B etc). Remember you are writing as if you are the creature and it is happening NOW (present tense). Choose your own special title.

By Emma Speedy for the Scottish Poetry Library’s education blog http://makingmakars.wordpress.com/