Similes and Metaphors

Poetry Devices
Simile

- A comparison using like or as
- His feet were as big as boats.
Willow and Ginkgo
Eve Merriam

The willow is like an etching,
Fine-lined against the sky.
The ginkgo is like a crude sketch,
Hardly worthy to be signed.
The willow’s music is like a soprano,
Delicate and thin.
The ginkgo’s tune is like a chorus
With everyone joining in.

The willow is sleek as a velvet-nosed calf;
The ginkgo is leathery as an old bull.
The willow’s branches are like silken thread;
The ginkgo’s like stubby rough wool.
A metaphor states that one thing is something else. It is a comparison, but it does NOT use like or as to make the comparison.

Her hair is silk.
Simile or Metaphor???

- The baby was like an octopus, grabbing at all the cans on the grocery store shelves.
- As the teacher entered the room she muttered under her breath, "This class is like a three-ring circus!"
- The giant’s steps were thunder as he ran toward Jack.
- The pillow was a cloud when I put my head upon it after a long day.
Simile or Metaphor???

- I feel like a limp dishrag.
- Those girls are like two peas in a pod.
- The fluorescent light was the sun during our test.
- No one invites Harold to parties because he’s a wet blanket.
- The bar of soap was a slippery eel during the dog’s bath.
- Ted was as nervous as a cat with a long tail in a room full of rocking chairs.
Simile and Metaphor Game

- Find a partner

- You have 15 minutes to come up with as many similes and metaphors for the word Miss Smith gives you

- You will get 1 point for each simile and 2 points for each metaphor

- They must be written so that Miss Smith can read them
Chocolate

- Make as many similes and metaphors as you can for this word.