

Onomatopoeia

from the Greek:

ónoma = name and *poi* = to make

Onomatopoeia is the literary device that relies on words that imitate the sound that they name. They're sound effect words or noise words. Writers choose these words as a way of conveying the sound of the things that they are describing and emphasizing something about the scene that they're describing. Examples of onomatopoeia are boom, meow, crash, sizzle, crunch and buzz.