VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP

WEEK FOUR: ACTIVATE

Three Ways to be a Poet

For Grades 3–5

Poetry is the perfect way to capture the spirit of a moment or make a statement. You can talk about your feelings, opinions, someone you love (or don’t!) It’s a great way to express all kinds of feelings.

What Will You Learn?

- Learn how to create a blackout, found, and haiku poem.
  - A blackout poem is created by blacking out the majority of words on a page from a magazine, recycled book, or any page with text printed on it, and the words left behind create the poem.
  - A found poem is created by finding words and phrases in printed materials, cutting them out, and then making a unique poem out of them.
  - A haiku is a three line poem with a syllable pattern: 5 syllables in the first line, 7 in the second and 5 in the third line. They are typically written about nature, but you can write about anything!

Materials:

- Paper
- Pen, pencil or other writing tool
- Materials to draw and/or color
- Dark color marker
- Recycled book, printed text, and/or magazines
- Scissors

Instructions:

- Blackout: Find a magazine, book or page with a lot of words that you have permission to mark up and write on.
  - Read it and see if there are any words or phrases that you like - those you are going to want to keep unmarked.
  - When you have finished finding words and phrases that sound good to you, blackout the words and phrases you don't want visible. You are left with a blackout poem!
● **Found:** Look through magazines, newspapers, recycled books or other printed materials you have around your house. Ask permission to cut up the pages.
  - As you’re looking through the materials you found, cut out words and phrases from headlines that stick out to you.
  - Glue them to a piece of paper to create a poem.

● **Haiku:** Take a pen and paper and get ready to write your poem! Your first line is going to have 5 syllables in your first line, 7 in the second and 5 in the last.
  - If you’re feeling inspired, you can draw an illustration for your poem when you’re finished.

**Reflection Questions:**

- How did it feel to write your poems?
- Was it different than talking about it with someone else?
- Did you learn any new words when you were cutting or crossing out words?

**Explanation:**

Words have power! We process feelings in many different ways, writing them down often helps us figure out how we feel about something. It is a great way to express emotions.

**More to Explore at the Library:**

Here are some books that are written in verse and about poetry: *Woke: A Young Poet's Call To Justice* by Mahogany L. Browne, with Elizabeth Acevedo And Olivia Gatwood; *Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga; and *Jabberwalking* By Juan Felipe Herrera.

Guide created by Megan Klaus.