

LESSON PLAN TITLE: Acrostic Poetry

Writer-in-Residence: Christiana Castillo

Grade Level: 1st-6th

Model Works Used: Acrostic Poems By Rey Hinojosa and Christiana Castillo

Literary Learning objective(s): Students will be able to write their own acrostic poems.

Themes: Poetic form

MDE/SEL Standards: : Students can identify literary devices, structures, and themes

Materials Needed: Pen or pencil, highlighter (optional), poem examples, poetry brainstorm, acrostic poem worksheet, white paper to draw on

Opening Activity:

Draw a big circle with one of your pointer fingers. Then take a BIG step in the circle. You have now gone through the Poetry Portal and you are in the Poetry World! In the Poetry World, anything is possible and anything can happen!

You are now in the Poetry World and you have turned into your favorite animal! Pretend to be your favorite animal.

Pre-Discussion:

Acrostic poetry is a special type of poetry that spells out the topic of a poem with the first letter of each line. Acrostic poetry is used to describe and celebrate our favorite things.

Model Poem Discussion:

Read the attached poems. Highlight or underline the first letter of each poem before you read each poem. What do the letters spell out?

Prewriting:

Fill our Brainstorming Worksheet attached.

Remember, *adjectives* are descriptive words for nouns. A *noun* is a person, place, or thing.

Adjectives describe *nouns* using colors, numbers, and our five senses.

Writing Prompt:

Create two acrostic poems. The poems can be about absolutely anything! If you have a hard time picking a topic write about your favorite animals or favorite foods. **Write your topic on the lines going down the page before you start writing your poem.** The longer the word that your topic is, the more challenging it will be to write an Acrostic Poem. Try to start off with a three to four letter topic and then keep challenging yourself. Use the worksheet to write your poems.

Share / Reflect:

After you finish writing your poems draw a picture to compliment your poem.
If possible share your poem with a family member or over the phone with a loved one.
How did you choose your topic when writing your Acrostic poem?
Was it challenging to write an Acrostic poem?
What was fun about it?
Would you write an Acrostic poem again?

Supplemental Materials

Poems by Christiana Castillo and Rey Hinojosa, Brainstorming Sheet, Poem Worksheet

Check/Highlight all that apply

- Text by a contemporary/diverse author**
- Translated text
- Visual Thinking Strategies
- Close reading or other analysis**
- A step of the writing process**
- Planning & Reflection Strategy
- New device, concept or theme**
- Social-Emotional Learning**
 - Self-Management
 - Social Awareness
 - Relationship Skills
 - Responsible-Decision Making
 - Self-Awareness**

Acrostic Poem Examples

Lovely Elephants

By: Christiana Castillo

Even though they are quite
Large, elephants are lovely
Everytime I see one I smile
Please treat Elephants kindly
Happiness starts with elephants
And making sure they are safe
Never forget how awesome they are
They are the best
Super wonderful

Curious Cats

By: Christiana Castillo

Curious creatures
Always sleeping or playing
Terrific and talented animals

Who's A Good Boy?

By: Rey Hinojosa

Digging
Often, but always a
Good boy

Cat Nap

By: Rey Hinojosa

Curled up
Another yawn
To nap

Acrostic Brainstorming

Name: _____

Pick your topic: _____

List five adjectives to describe your topic:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

How does your topic make you feel?

What does your topic do? If it's an animal, what does your topic do for fun? If it's food, how is it made?



Acrostic Poetry Worksheet

Name:

Title:

Title:



Draw a picture here:

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