



Healing Through The Arts®

Where those who are healing find strength,
hope and inspiration through the arts.

English, Lesson 1 – *Concrete Poem*

Lesson goal – To encourage creating thinking strategies

Target students – All levels

Learning Objective – Students will create a concrete poem with the theme of hope and or healing

Outcome – Students will understand the how the shape of words on a page works in unison with the meaning of words to amplify, enhance, or complement a theme or message

Standards – The following educational standards are addressed in this lesson:

- PA CC.1.4.11-12.Q
- PA CC.1.4.11-12.R
- PA CC.1.4.11-12.T
- PA CC.1.4.11-12.U

Materials / Resources – The following resources will be required for this lesson:

- Concrete Poem handouts
- Computer with word processing
- Templates (see Resources)

Description of Lesson (recommended duration: as needed)

1. Students will use existing templates to create a poem to fill the space. Students should choose the shape that best fits their idea of hope. Students may write in any direction they choose. (Tier 1)
2. Using a computer, students will create a concrete poem to fit their idea of hope. Students should move away from using exclusively horizontal words. Instead, students should place their text in text boxes so words can be positioned and rotated to create an original shape. Students may also print out their word lists and physically cut and paste a poem together. (Tier 2)

3. This is the same as Tier 2 with the following adaptation for a student more comfortable with technology. Students should work in relevant color that adds to the message/idea. Poems at this level should be shaped to communicate a sense of action or movement as opposed to the more conventional static shape likely in a Step 2 poem. Final product should be displayed and/or shared online. (Tier 3)

Resources:







