



Nature Poems

Topics:

- Creative Writing (Poetry)

Summary: In this interactive workshop, students write a short “five senses poem” about their favorite place in nature -a backyard, a garden, the beach, etc. and discuss the role of nature in *The Secret Garden*. As time permits, students may choose to decorate their poems with artwork and share their poems with the rest of the group.

Grades: K-2

Time: 30-45 minutes

Materials:

- Nature Poem Guide (provided in Appendix)
- Art supplies for decorating poems as desired

Learning Targets:

I CAN write a “five senses poem” about my favorite place in nature

Introduction (15 minutes):

Gather students in a circle and have them think about the garden they saw in Hampstead Stage Company’s production of *The Secret Garden* (or in any other adaptation they may be familiar with). Ask students to share what they remember about the garden. What did it look like (even if it is just what they imagine it would look like)? How did the garden make the characters in the play feel?

Let students know, *Just like Colin, Mary, and Dickon in The Secret Garden, you all probably have your own favorite place in nature. Today, you’ll get to share about this place and write a five senses poem about this place.*

Quick Review –

What are the five senses?

Sight
Sound
Smell
Touch
Taste

We can use the five senses to paint a strong picture of what our favorite places are like -so even if someone has never been there, they will be able to experience it.

Students Write Short Poems (15 minutes)

- Hand out copies of the Nature Poem Guide to students.



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- If students are comfortable, they may fill in the blanks themselves. If needed, you may also guide students through filling in each one (it may be helpful for the teacher to do an example poem prior to the class to share with students)
- For younger students who are not comfortable with writing, they may use the five senses to guide them in thinking about their place and then they may choose to draw a picture of this place and share about it during the reflection time in this workshop.

Students Decorate Poems (10 minutes or as desired)

As time allows, students may decorate their poem with pictures of their place and/or them in their favorite place.

Students Share Poems with the Class (10 minutes or as desired)

As time allows, students may share their poems with the class or in smaller groups. Student poems could also be displayed in the classroom.



Nature Poem Guide

My favorite place outside is:

When I stand in this place,

I see:

I smell:

I hear:

I feel:

I taste:

I am: