



Lesson One: Newcomb Pottery

Concrete Poetry

Newcomb Pottery artist Harriet Joor drew sketches while studying in Massachusetts. She used poetic words to describe the landscape, calling it “Tansy town,” delighting in “*the glorious wealth of yellow blossoms that bank the roadsides with solid gold during the midsummer months, when the ‘Queen’s Anne’s lace is weaving its white web over the meadows!’*”

In this activity, participants will go to a natural setting (such as a park or garden) to record what they hear, see, and feel into a concrete or visual poem.

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XckFxo35jF4>

Materials:

Pencil

Notebook Paper

Suggested Reading:

Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems by Bob Raczka

Younger or persons with less dexterity

Go to fristkids.org for our “Inspired by Nature” video and “Adventure Diorama” activity.

Suggested Reading:

Little Cloud and Lady Wind by Toni and Slade Morrison

1



Go outside to a natural setting.

2



Look at, listen to, touch, and smell things you find there.

3



Use a pencil and paper to jot down words and create sketches what you observed.

4



Compose a simple poem that describes your experience.

5



Choose a sketch to enlarge. Copy out your poem in the shape of the sketch.