



WOODRIDGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68

Common Core Writing Newsletter

2nd Grade

Poetry: Big Thoughts in Small Packages

Students will learn to seek and cherish small observations, turning these observations into finely crafted poems. This unit will introduce students to the beauty and complex features of poetry.

Students will begin this unit by noticing that poets are sparked by objects and feelings. They will pay close attention to the way words can make sound and experience with using line breaks in their own writing. They will work in groups to read and examine the genre of poetry. Students will begin to examine the differences between poetry and prose.

Next, students will explore the power of words. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with using precise word choice, repetition, and figurative language. They will choose topics, structures, metaphors, language, and line breaks to apply in their own poems. Students will be asked to look to objects and memories to inspire their poetry writing.

Lastly, writers will continue to study all aspects of poetry, but they will especially focus on structure. Students will closely read and write many types of poems, taking a close look at how they are pieced together. Students will learn to examine the more natural structures of poetry: story poems, list poems, and back-and-forth conversation poems.

Students will continue to participate in a writer's workshop during a daily, dedicated writing time. The daily workshop is set up so that students will be presented with a mini-lesson and then be sent off to write as the teacher confers with students both individually and in small

Attached to this newsletter are a grade level specific checklist and an example of proficient student writing for this unit's genre of writing. Please contact your student's teacher should you have any further questions.