

baseball concrete poem

baseball concrete poem is a unique and creative intersection of literature and sports that captures the excitement of the game in a visual and poetic way. This article delves deep into what makes a baseball concrete poem so distinctive, exploring its definition, structure, and artistic appeal. Readers will discover the history behind concrete poetry, its connection to baseball, and step-by-step guidance on crafting their own baseball-themed poem. Additionally, the article covers tips for teachers and students, showcases inspiring examples, and discusses the educational benefits of this poetic form. Whether you are a poetry enthusiast, a baseball fan, or an educator seeking new classroom ideas, this comprehensive guide will illuminate the world of baseball concrete poems and inspire your creativity.

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Understanding Baseball Concrete Poems

A baseball concrete poem is a poetic composition where the arrangement of words, lines, and spaces visually represents a baseball theme or scene. Unlike traditional poems, a concrete poem's shape on the page is as important as the words themselves. In the context of baseball, this might mean the poem is shaped like a baseball, a bat, a glove, or even a diamond field. The visual aspect helps convey the atmosphere, movement, and excitement of the sport, while the words evoke its sensory details and emotions. Baseball concrete poems are engaging for both readers and writers as they merge visual art and verse, providing a multisensory experience. This form is especially popular among students and educators for its playful yet meaningful approach to poetry.

The Origins of Concrete Poetry

Concrete poetry, also known as shape poetry or visual poetry, dates back to ancient civilizations but gained prominence in the 1950s and 1960s. Poets sought to break free from conventional forms, focusing on the visual arrangement of text to enhance meaning. By using the layout of words to form images, concrete poets emphasize the relationship between form and content. Baseball concrete poems are a modern adaptation, using the sport's imagery to enrich the reading experience. This poetic style encourages creativity and innovation, appealing to a wide range of audiences, from children to adults.

Why Baseball and Poetry Make a Powerful Combination

Baseball and poetry may seem like distinct worlds, but they share several similarities that make their combination compelling. Baseball is renowned for its rhythm, drama, and tradition, all of which translate well into poetic form. The sport's iconic moments—home runs, pitches, and diving catches—are ripe for vivid description and visual representation. By crafting a baseball concrete poem, writers can capture the game's energy and atmosphere in both words and shapes. This fusion deepens appreciation for both poetry and America's favorite pastime, making it a popular project in literature and sports education.

Key Features of a Baseball Concrete Poem

A well-crafted baseball concrete poem stands out due to its integration of visual form and thematic content. The following features are commonly found in effective baseball concrete poems:

- **Visual Shape:** The poem is arranged to resemble a baseball object or action (e.g., baseball, bat, glove, diamond field).
- **Thematic Language:** Words and phrases closely relate to baseball, including terminology, game moments, or player emotions.
- **Descriptive Imagery:** Vivid sensory details bring the scene to life, invoking the sights, sounds, and feelings of the game.
- **Creative Layout:** Use of line breaks, spacing, and orientation to guide the reader's eye and reinforce the poem's message.

- **Economy of Words:** Concise language ensures the shape remains clear and the poem impactful.

How to Write Your Own Baseball Concrete Poem

Crafting a baseball concrete poem involves both poetic skill and artistic planning. Follow these steps to create an engaging poem:

Step 1: Choose a Baseball Theme or Image

Decide which baseball element you want to represent—such as a ball, glove, bat, or field. Consider what aspect of the game you wish to highlight, whether it's the excitement of a home run or the tension of a close play.

Step 2: Brainstorm Keywords and Phrases

List baseball-related words, actions, emotions, and sensory details. Think about how these words can be arranged visually to form your chosen shape.

Step 3: Sketch the Shape

Lightly outline the shape you want your poem to take on paper or digitally. This visual guide will help you place your words effectively.

Step 4: Write and Arrange Your Poem

Compose your poem, focusing on succinct and vivid language. As you write, place each word or phrase according to your sketched outline, adjusting as needed to maintain the shape and meaning.

Step 5: Refine and Finalize

Review your concrete poem, ensuring it conveys your intended message and maintains a recognizable baseball shape. Edit for clarity, impact, and visual balance.

Examples and Creative Ideas

Seeing actual examples can spark creativity when writing a baseball concrete poem. Here are some popular ideas:

- A poem shaped like a crossed pair of baseball bats, using lines describing a powerful hit or the anticipation before a swing.
- Words spiraling to form a baseball, with stanzas about the ball's journey from pitcher to batter to fielder.
- A glove-shaped poem, with lines narrating a dramatic catch or the feel of leather on the hand.
- A diamond-shaped field, featuring verses about the bases, runners, and the tension of a close game.
- An umpire mask, with phrases that capture the authority and perspective of the game's officials.

Tips for Teachers and Classrooms

Baseball concrete poems are particularly effective in educational settings, combining language arts and visual creativity. Teachers can use these poems to engage students who might not otherwise be interested in poetry or sports. Here are some classroom tips:

- Introduce the concept with simple shape poems before moving to more complex baseball designs.
- Encourage group brainstorming sessions to generate baseball-related words and images.
- Provide templates or outlines for students to fill with their own words.
- Display finished poems on classroom walls or create a poetry booklet for students to share.
- Integrate lessons on baseball history, terminology, or famous plays for added context.

Benefits of Baseball Concrete Poems

Writing baseball concrete poems offers numerous educational and developmental benefits. These include:

1. **Enhanced Creativity:** Students and writers practice creative thinking by merging art and language.
2. **Improved Vocabulary:** Exposure to baseball terms and poetic devices expands word knowledge.
3. **Visual Literacy:** Understanding and creating visual representations strengthens spatial awareness.
4. **Collaboration:** Group projects foster teamwork and communication skills.
5. **Engagement:** The playful nature of concrete poetry makes learning enjoyable and memorable.

Conclusion

Baseball concrete poems blend the rhythm and passion of America's favorite pastime with the artistry of visual poetry. From their historical roots to modern classroom applications, these poems offer an engaging way to celebrate baseball while nurturing creativity and literacy skills. Whether you are a teacher, student, or poetry lover, exploring baseball concrete poems can open new avenues for expression and appreciation of both sports and literature.

Q: What is a baseball concrete poem?

A: A baseball concrete poem is a type of visual poetry where words and lines are arranged to create the shape of a baseball-related object, such as a bat, glove, or baseball, enhancing the poem's meaning through its appearance.

Q: How do you write a baseball concrete poem?

A: To write a baseball concrete poem, choose a baseball theme or object, brainstorm relevant words and phrases, sketch the desired shape, arrange your poem within that outline, and edit for clarity and visual appeal.

Q: Why are baseball concrete poems popular in

classrooms?

A: Baseball concrete poems are popular in classrooms because they integrate language arts with visual creativity, making poetry more engaging for students, particularly those who enjoy sports.

Q: What shapes are commonly used in baseball concrete poems?

A: Common shapes include baseballs, bats, gloves, the baseball diamond, home plate, and even player silhouettes, all of which enhance the thematic impact of the poem.

Q: What are the key features of an effective baseball concrete poem?

A: Effective baseball concrete poems feature a recognizable shape, concise and vivid language, creative layout, and strong baseball-related imagery and emotion.

Q: Can baseball concrete poems be used for group projects?

A: Yes, baseball concrete poems work well as collaborative projects, allowing groups to brainstorm, design, and compose together, fostering teamwork and creativity.

Q: What educational benefits do baseball concrete poems offer?

A: Educational benefits include enhanced creativity, improved vocabulary, development of visual literacy, and greater engagement in both poetry and sports topics.

Q: Are there any tools to help create baseball concrete poems digitally?

A: Yes, various word processing and graphic design programs allow writers to manipulate text and shapes, making it easier to craft visually striking baseball concrete poems.

Q: Can concrete poetry be used for sports other than baseball?

A: Absolutely, concrete poetry can represent any sport or subject, using the same principles of visual arrangement to convey meaning through shape and language.

Q: What is the historical origin of concrete poetry?

A: Concrete poetry has roots in ancient times but became widely recognized in the mid-20th century, focusing on the visual arrangement of text to enhance poetic expression.

Baseball Concrete Poem

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Baseball Concrete Poem: A Home Run of Literary Expression

Are you ready to step up to the plate and experience poetry in a whole new way? Forget rhyming couplets and traditional stanzas. This post dives deep into the exciting world of the "baseball concrete poem," a unique form of creative writing that uses the visual shape of a baseball to enhance its meaning. We'll explore examples, techniques, and even inspire you to craft your own home run of literary expression. Get ready to discover how the visual impact of this unconventional poem can truly knock your socks off!

What is a Baseball Concrete Poem?

A baseball concrete poem, also known as a shaped poem or visual poem, is a type of poetry where the arrangement of words on the page creates a visual image resembling a baseball. It's not just about the words themselves; it's about the form the words take. The shape reinforces the poem's theme and adds another layer of meaning for the reader. Imagine the power of a poem shaped like the very object it describes!

Key Elements of a Successful Baseball Concrete Poem

Creating a compelling baseball concrete poem requires careful consideration of several key elements:

1. The Shape:

The most crucial element is achieving a recognizable baseball shape. This isn't about perfect circles and seams; it's about creating an overall impression of a baseball. Experiment with different word lengths and line breaks to achieve the desired form. Consider using spaces strategically to emphasize the roundness and texture.

2. The Theme:

The poem's theme should complement the visual shape. A baseball poem naturally lends itself to topics related to baseball itself – the game, its players, the spirit of competition, the thrill of victory, or even the bittersweet sting of defeat. The theme must resonate with the chosen shape.

3. Word Choice:

Select words that are evocative and relevant to the theme and visually contribute to the baseball shape. Strong verbs and descriptive adjectives are key. Avoid overly long words that disrupt the poem's visual flow and symmetry.

4. Line Breaks and Spacing:

The strategic use of line breaks and spacing is paramount. They help you control the poem's visual form and guide the reader's eye. Experiment with different arrangements to find the optimal balance between visual impact and readability.

Examples of Baseball Concrete Poems

While finding readily available examples online specifically labeled as "baseball concrete poems" is challenging, the concept is easily demonstrable. Imagine a poem where the words "home run" are positioned at the very center, surrounded by words describing the trajectory of the ball, creating a visual representation of an arc. Or a poem where the words "pitcher," "catcher," "batter" are placed strategically to outline the diamond itself.

Crafting Your Own Baseball Concrete Poem: A Step-by-Step Guide

1. Brainstorming: Begin by brainstorming ideas related to baseball. What aspects of the game

resonate most with you? Focus on a specific theme or feeling.

2. Sketching: Before you write, sketch out the baseball shape on paper. This will help you visualize the poem's structure and determine the appropriate length of each line and the placement of key words.

3. Word Selection: Choose words and phrases that effectively convey your theme and contribute to the overall shape.

4. Arrangement: Carefully arrange the words and phrases within the sketched outline, ensuring the poem's shape is clear and easily recognizable as a baseball.

5. Refinement: Review your poem, making adjustments to the word choice, line breaks, and spacing until the visual and thematic elements complement each other perfectly.

Beyond the Baseball: Expanding the Concrete Poetry Universe

The beauty of concrete poetry lies in its versatility. The baseball is merely a starting point. You can apply this visual poetry form to any object or concept imaginable - a heart, a tree, a car, even an abstract idea. Experiment and let your creativity soar!

Conclusion

The baseball concrete poem offers a unique and exciting approach to creative writing. By blending visual artistry with poetic expression, you can create a powerful and memorable piece that engages readers on multiple levels. So grab your pen and paper (or your keyboard), and get ready to hit a grand slam with your own unique baseball concrete poem!

FAQs

1. Are there established rules for baseball concrete poems? No, there are no strict rules. The beauty lies in experimentation and finding your own unique style.

2. Can I use existing baseball-related phrases in my poem? Absolutely! Use them strategically to enhance the poem's meaning and visual impact.

3. How long should a baseball concrete poem be? There's no specific length. The length should be dictated by your chosen theme and the complexity of the visual shape you're aiming for.

4. What kind of software can I use to create a baseball concrete poem? You can use simple word processors like Microsoft Word or Google Docs. More advanced options include graphic design software for greater control over visual elements.
5. Can I incorporate imagery beyond words? Yes, you can experiment with incorporating other visual elements, such as illustrations or even textured backgrounds, to enhance the overall effect.

baseball concrete poem: Wet Cement Bob Raczka, 2016-03-08 Who says words need to be concrete? This collection shapes poems in surprising and delightful ways. Concrete poetry is a perennially popular poetic form because they are fun to look at. But by using the arrangement of the words on the page to convey the meaning of the poem, concrete or shape poems are also easy to write! From the author of the incredibly inventive *Lemonade: And Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word* comes another clever collection that shows kids how to look at words and poetry in a whole new way.

baseball concrete poem: The Way of Baseball Shawn Green, 2012-06-05 Major League All-Star Green shares how his baseball career has taught him to live life being fully present in every moment.

baseball concrete poem: Good Sports Jack Prelutsky, 2011-03-02 Exhilarating, all-new, kid-friendly rhymes capture the range of emotions, from winning to losing to the sheer joy of participating, that children experience as they discover the games of their choice. Jack Prelutsky, a virtuoso at making poetry fun for the elementary school crowd, includes in this inspired collection poems about baseball, soccer, football, skating, swimming, gymnastics, basketball, karate, and more. His signature lighthearted humor in verse that trips off the tongue is coupled here with the 2006 Caldecott Medal winner Chris Raschka's lickety-split, stylized (and stylish) watercolors. Every page is a blaze of color and motion. Whether *Good Sports* will create good sports remains to be seen, but it will prove to young boys (and girls) that reading poetry can be fun.

baseball concrete poem: Ode to a Commode Brian P. Cleary, 2014-10-01 Is that a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a poem! Concrete poems are shaped like their subjects. They can look like objects, animals, or even people. You won't find many straight lines here! Award-winning author Brian P. Cleary explains how concrete poems work—and uses them to create all sorts of wild wordplay. *Ode to a Commode* is packed with mind-bending poems to make you puzzle and ponder. And when you've finished reading, you can try your hand at writing your own concrete poems!

baseball concrete poem: Pucks, Clubs, and Baseball Gloves Catherine Ipcizade, Blake Hoena, Matthew Loveridge, Mark Weakland, 2014 Introduces basic poetry forms and terms through the use of original sports-themed poems--

baseball concrete poem: No More Poems! Rhett Miller, 2019-03-05 Acclaimed singer-songwriter Rhett Miller teams up with Caldecott Medalist and bestselling artist Dan Santat in a riotous collection of irreverent poems for modern families. In the tradition of Shel Silverstein, these poems bring a fresh new twist to the classic dilemmas of childhood as well as a perceptive eye to the foibles of modern family life. Full of clever wordplay and bright visual gags--and toilet humor to spare--these twenty-three rhyming poems make for an ideal read-aloud experience. Taking on the subjects of a bullying baseball coach and annoying little brothers with equally sly humor, renowned lyricist Rhett Miller's clever verses will have the whole family cackling.

baseball concrete poem: Using Poetry Across the Curriculum Barbara Chatton, 2010-01-13 This comprehensive listing and discussion of poetic works supports the standards of all areas of the curriculum, helping librarians and teachers working with kindergarten through middle school students. This second edition of *Using Poetry Across the Curriculum: Learning to Love Language* offers a comprehensive list of poetry anthologies, poetic picture books, and poetic prose works in a wide variety of subject areas. While it maintains the original edition's focus on ideas and resource lists for integration of poetry into all areas of the curriculum, it is thoroughly revised to cover current issues in education and the wealth of new poetry books available. The book is organized by

subject areas commonly taught in elementary and middle schools, and, within these, by the national standards in each area. Numerous examples of poetry and poetic prose that can be used to help students understand and appreciate aspects of the standard are listed. A sampling of units that arise from groups of works, writing and performance ideas, and links across the curriculum is also included. While many teaching ideas and topics provide references to the standards they meet, this title is unique in starting with those standards and making links across them.

baseball concrete poem: The Last-place Sports Poems of Jeremy Bloom Gordon Korman, Bernice Korman, 1996 Sports. That's Jeremy Bloom's topic. He's not psyched about spending another year writing poetry, but maybe it won't be as bad as he thinks. He and his friends Chad and Michael join every team the school has - football, soccer, hockey, basketball, and baseball! At first, the guys are unstoppable, undefeated! But when Mrs. Stegowitz decides to become a fan, suddenly the guys are headed for a never-ending losing streak. Jeremy's glory poems ache with the agony of defeat. But surprisingly... he keeps writing. Could poetry be actually as cool as sports?

baseball concrete poem: My Head Lives Here Mia Shparaga, 2019-10-31 This book is a residence for thoughts that cannot live inside a head. The majority of the poems in this collection endeavor to articulate the often-overwhelming elusiveness of the world around us. Each piece intends to invoke an image that relates to moments in our life that we relive every now and then - flavoring our conscious with either hints of nostalgia or the essence of apprehension. Those moments that have been hidden away in our deepest memories, displaced by the bustling substance of "things that matter." Throughout the text, there is an obvious evolution of emotional depth and complexity in my perception of the adequate words to say. Yet, the entire collection represents my current state as a new author, aspiring to emulate the effortless yet profound simplicity of words as art. As an extension of my own reality, the world inside these pages explores the extremes of emotion that are sometimes better read than felt.

baseball concrete poem: Pucks, Clubs, and Baseball Gloves Catherine Ipcizade, Blake Hoena, Matthew Loveridge, Mark Weakland, 2014 Introduces basic poetry forms and terms through the use of original sports-themed poems--

baseball concrete poem: Poetry in Literature for Youth Angela Leeper, 2006-03-28 Poetry in Literature for Youth offers teachers, librarians, parents, and students with an instrumental guide for incorporating all forms of poetry into the curriculum. More than 900 annotated entries provide descriptions of books and other resources, including anthologies, classics, various poetry formats, poetry novels, multicultural poetry, performance poetry, teen poetry, poet biographies, and curriculum connections. Educators, who are often unaware of the poetry resources available-particularly for young adults-will welcome this book with open arms. Lists for building a core poetry collection, along with resources for teaching poetry criticism and writing, electronic poetry resources, booktalks, classroom activities, and lesson plans complement this guide. Author, Geographic, Grade, Subject, and Title indexes are also included. For anyone interested in knowing more about poetry in literature, this is an indispensable guide.

baseball concrete poem: A Poke in the I Paul B. Janeczko, Christopher Raschka, 2001 Offers a collection of poetry for young readers from numerous visual poets, including Maureen W. Armour and John Hollander.

baseball concrete poem: Joe DiMaggio Moves Like Liquid Light Loren Broaddus, 2019-09-10 A collection of poetry and quotes about baseball—and about so much more. The diamond is the backdrop for Loren Broaddus's exploration of nostalgia, family, race, jazz, and the winding hallways of history. Joe DiMaggio is sometimes domestic, sometimes political—microscopic here, aerial there. While Broaddus's poems may start at home plate, he sends them flying in all directions: sometimes into left field, sometimes out of the park entirely.

baseball concrete poem: Come on All You Ghosts Matthew Zapruder, 2010 Charming, melancholy, hip.--Publishers Weekly, starred review Zapruder's innovative style is provocative in its unusual juxtapositions of line, image and enjambments. . . . Highly recommended.--Library Journal Matthew Zapruder's third book mixes humor and invention with love and loss, as when the breath of

a lover is compared to a field of titanium gravestones / growing warmer in the sun. The title poem is an elegy for the heroes and mentors in the poet's life--from David Foster Wallace to the poet's father. Zapruder's poems are direct and surprising, and throughout the book he wrestles with the desire to do well, to make art, and to face the vast events of the day. Look out scientists! Today the unemployment rate is 9.4 percent. I have no idea what that means. I tried to think about it harder for a while. Then tried standing in an actual stance of mystery and not knowing towards the world. Which is my job. As is staring at the back yard and for one second believing I am actually rising away from myself. Which is maybe what I have in common right now with you . . . Matthew Zapruder holds degrees from Amherst College, UC Berkeley, and the University of Massachusetts. He is the author of two previous books, including *The Pajamaist*, which won the William Carlos Williams Award and was honored by Library Journal with a Best Poetry Book of the Year listing. He lives in San Francisco and is an editor at Wave Books.

baseball concrete poem: Do You Want to Be Happy and Write? Robert Lecker, 2023-09 Michael Ondaatje has achieved international prominence and recognition in a way that few other writers have, let alone Canadian writers. This popularity is most pronounced for works of historical fiction such as *The English Patient*, winner of the Golden Man Booker Prize, and *In the Skin of a Lion*, set in 1930s Toronto, shortlisted for the Governor General's Award and winner of the Canada Reads competition in 2002. But Ondaatje has been writing for over fifty years, and his innovative works include some of the most accomplished poetry in the English-speaking world. Taking its title from a question in his poem "Tin Roof," *Do You Want to Be Happy and Write?* reassesses Ondaatje's writing and the role of the poet, from his troubled explorations of the self-reflexive artist to his most recent novels. Comprehensive in both approach and coverage, this new collection offers groundbreaking analysis informed by an understanding of Ondaatje's entire oeuvre, placing early poetry collections like *The Collected Works of Billy the Kid* and *There's a Trick with a Knife I'm Learning to Do* alongside the full range of his novels and his extensive work as a literary editor. The book highlights the transnational, postcolonial, and diasporic issues that have become increasingly apparent in Ondaatje's work. Contributors explore key interests that have reappeared and been rethought across his fiction and poetry: the construction of identity; the nature of memory and its relation to family origins and history; the human body as a site of contestation and struggle; the contrast between Eastern and Western values and the Southeast Asian diaspora; the writer's responsibility in depictions of war, psychic trauma, and genocide; and an ongoing fascination with the visual and the media of photography and film. An eclectic celebration of an iconic author, *Do You Want to Be Happy and Write?* offers an authoritative reference point for scholars and students of literature and reveals new facets of a major author to his readers around the world.

baseball concrete poem: The Back Chamber Donald Hall, 2011 The first full-length volume of poems in a decade by the former poet laureate of the United States In *The Back Chamber*, Donald Hall illuminates the evocative, iconic objects of deep memory—a cowbell, a white stone perfectly round, a three-legged milking stool—that serve to foreground the rich meditations on time and mortality that run through his remarkable new collection. While Hall's devoted readers will recognize many of his long-standing preoccupations—baseball, the family farm, love, sex, and friendship—what will strike them as new is the fierce, pitiless poignancy he reveals as his own life's end comes into view. *The Back Chamber* is far from being death-haunted, but rather is lively, irreverent, erotic, hilarious, ironic, and sly—full of the life-affirming energy that has made Donald Hall one of America's most popular and enduring poets.

baseball concrete poem: Poetry People Sylvia M. Vardell, 2007-06-30 Dr. Sylvia Vardell's new children's poetry reference book provides a comprehensive introduction to more than 60 contemporary young people's poets. Focusing primarily on those who are still actively writing today, the author includes poets appropriate for young children through young adults. Each entry features brief biographical information, highlights selected poetry books authored, showcases awards won, notes related Web sites, and provides suggestions for making connections (programming ideas, related books and activities). The book is ideal for librarians who serve children and young adults, as

well as for teachers and others who work with children and young adults. Beginning with Arnold Adoff the list of poets is both impressive and informative. A sample: Francisco Alarcon, Aileen Fisher, Douglas Florian, Nikki Giovanni, Kristine O'Connell George, Jane Yolen, Eloise Greenfield, John Ciardi and many more!

baseball concrete poem: *A Crossing of Zebras* Marjorie Maddox, 2019-12-13 You've probably heard the phrase a school of fish. But what about a rumba of rattlesnakes, an army of ants, or a crash of rhinos? Derived from both oral and written traditions, collective nouns go back centuries. These terms not only charm us with their sound, but they provide a bit of insight into animal behavior. Readers can find these and other terms--from alley cats to zebras--in fourteen thought-provoking poems by Marjorie Maddox. She and artist Philip Huber create a wonderful combination of rich wordplay and captivating art that piques the imagination.

baseball concrete poem: *Something Beautiful* Sharon Dennis Wyeth, 1998 When she goes looking for something beautiful in her city neighborhood, a young girl finds beauty in many different forms.

baseball concrete poem: *Guyku* Bob Raczka, 2010-10-04 The wind and I play tug-of-war with my new kite. The wind is winning. When you're a guy, nature is one big playground—no matter what the season. There are puddles to splash in the spring, pine trees to climb in the summer, maple seeds to catch in the fall, and icicles to swordfight with in the winter. Nature also has a way of making a guy appreciate important stuff—like how many rocks it takes to dam up a stream, or how much snow equals a day off from school. So what kind of poetry best captures these special moments, at a length that lets guys get right back to tree-climbing and kite-flying? Why, guyku, of course!

baseball concrete poem: *A Kick in the Head* , 2009-03-10 Readers will have the good fortune to experience poetry as art, game, joke, list, song, story, statement, question, memory. A primer like no other. — School Library Journal (starred review) In this splendid and playful volume — second of a trilogy — an acclaimed creative team presents examples of twenty-nine poetic forms, demonstrating not only the (sometimes bendable) rules of poetry, but also the spirit that brings these forms to life. Featuring poems from the likes of Eleanor Farjeon (aubade), X. J. Kennedy (elegy), Ogden Nash (couplet), Liz Rosenberg (pantoum), and William Shakespeare, the sonnet king himself, *A Kick in the Head* perfectly illustrates Robert Frost's maxim that poetry without rules is like a tennis match without a net. Back matter includes notes on poetic forms.

baseball concrete poem: *Good Bones* Maggie Smith, 2020-07-15 Featuring "Good Bones"—called "Official Poem of 2016" by the BBC/Public Radio International. Maggie Smith writes out of the experience of motherhood, inspired by watching her own children read the world like a book they've just opened, knowing nothing of the characters or plot. These are poems that stare down darkness while cultivating and sustaining possibility, poems that have a sense of moral gravitas, personal urgency, and the ability to address a larger world. Maggie Smith's previous books are *The Well Speaks of Its Own Poison* (Tupelo, 2015), *Lamp of the Body* (Red Hen, 2005), and three prize-winning chapbooks: *Disasterology* (Dream Horse, 2016), *The List of Dangers* (Kent State, 2010), and *Nesting Dolls* (Pudding House, 2005). Her poem "Good Bones" has gone viral—tweeted and translated across the world, featured on the TV drama *Madam Secretary*, and called the "Official Poem of 2016" by the BBC/Public Radio International, earning news coverage in the New York Times, Washington Post, Slate, the Guardian, and beyond. Maggie Smith was named the 2016 Ohio Poet of the Year. "Smith's voice is clear and unmistakable as she unravels the universe, pulls at a loose thread and lets the whole thing tumble around us, sometimes beautiful, sometimes achingly hard. Truthful, tender, and unafraid of the dark...."—Ada Limón "As if lost in the soft, bewitching world of fairy tale, Maggie Smith conceives and brings forth this metaphysical Baedeker, a guidebook for mother and child to lead each other into a hopeful present. Smith's poems affirm the virtues of humanity: compassion, empathy, and the ability to comfort one another when darkness falls. 'There is a light,' she tells us, 'and the light is good.'"—D. A. Powell "Good Bones is an extraordinary book. Maggie Smith demonstrates what happens when an abundance of heart and

intelligence meets the hands of a master craftsman, reminding us again that the world, for a true poet, is blessedly inexhaustible.”—Erin Belieu

baseball concrete poem: In This Quiet Church of Night, I Say Amen Devin Kelly, 2017-11-07 In her interview with *The Paris Review*, Joan Didion offered this credo: 'The writer is always tricking the reader into listening to the dream.' To read Devin Kelly's poetry collection, *In This Quiet Church of Night I Say Amen* is to privilege the dream. This book is an elegy for the living, the simple difficulty within and behind departure: 'Who we let go & how-I want to tell you this means more than who we stay beside.' The hard geographic lines in this collection, as we move through the industrial landscape of Appalachia to the coffee-studded sidewalks of Brooklyn, draw parcels of memories and non-memories. Such proximities ask us who we are when we are here and not here. Kelly is a poet of infinite feeling, a poet who is not afraid to bewilder his capacity to love. This book hurts the way life hurts, and Kelly promises us thus: 'Life will have, I think, its punishment for all of us.' If you grow dizzy as you read this book, it's because you haven't been breathing. These are gorgeous poems. --Natalie Eilbert, author of *Indictus* and *Swan Feast*

baseball concrete poem: Get Real with Storytime Julie Dietzel-Glair, Marianne Crandall Follis Ph.D., 2015-11-10 This is a complete, year-long programming guide that shows librarians how to integrate nonfiction and poetry into storytime for preschool children in order to build literacy skills and overall knowledge. The right nonfiction titles—ones with colorful photographs and facts that are interesting to young imaginations—give librarians an opportunity to connect with children who are yearning for true stuff. Presenting poetry in storytime encourages a love of language and the chance to play with words. Written by authors with a combined 25 years of experience working with children and books in a library setting, *Get Real With Storytime: 52 Weeks of Early Literacy Programming* goes far beyond the typical storytime resource book by providing books and great ideas for using nonfiction and poetry with preschool children. This book provides a complete, year-long programming guide for librarians who work with preschool children in public libraries and school librarians who run special programs for preschoolers as well as parents, childcare providers, and camp counselors. Each of the 52 broad storytime topics (one for each week of the year) includes a sample storytime featuring an opening poem; a nonfiction title; picture books; songs, rhymes, or fingerplays; and a follow-up activity. Early literacy tips that are based on the authors' extensive experience and the principles of *Every Child Ready to Read* (ECRR) are presented throughout the book.

baseball concrete poem: Common Place Sarah Pinder, 2017-04-17 *Common Place* negotiates intimacy while navigating the complexities of memory, addressing shifting, resilient bodies and landscapes challenged by systems of capital and power. From thin threads of text messages across borders to encounters with strangers in the crush of rush hour transit, Sarah Pinder explores seeing and being seen in our most private and public of moments. With considered, quiet urgency, these poems name our ambiguous, aching present and look towards what comes next.

baseball concrete poem: Rules of the Game Marjorie Maddox, 2009 Here's a celebration of baseball in poetry and the poetry in baseball. Baseball is a game of fine points and grand gestures, small blunders and bold accomplishments--the hook slide into second, the humble bunt, the unexpected wild pitch, the bases-loaded home run. Poet and baseball fan Marjorie Maddox pays tribute to these and other details that make the national pastime an enduring and engaging sport for players and fans alike. Surprising wordplay and striking images offer a unique perspective of this classic American game.

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culturally responsive teaching, all while championing the power of read alouds. Inside you'll find: Over 200 picture book suggestions introducing the Heartprint Framework, which demonstrates how you can layer literacy with life lessons 60 read aloud based connections that support caring classroom conversations, lesson planning, and extensions Instructional opportunities for nurturing readers and writers during workshop time, small-group gatherings, or individual conferring sessions Literacy Snapshot photo essays with ideas on how to adopt or adapt Continuing connections with additional resources and invitations for further learning Layers of Learning pulls together the ideas that the books we share not only serve an academic purpose, but also convey big, affective messages. This can lead to richer and more meaningful classroom conversations.

baseball concrete poem: Changing on the Fly George Bowering, 2004 George Bowering has been an inimitable, witty, eclectic and electrifying voice in Canadian letters for decades. The author of over 20 poetry collections, novels, criticism, memoirs, and recently, unauthorized histories of Canada, Bowering has won the Governor General's Award for poetry and fiction. In 2000, in recognition of his extraordinary accomplishments, Bowering was appointed Canada's Poet Laureate. *Changing on the Fly* collects the best of Bowering's poetry in one fascinating, revelatory and immensely readable volume.

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baseball concrete poem: The Throne of the Third Heaven of the Nations Millennium General Assembly Denis Johnson, 2009-03-03 From the award-winning poet and novelist—a must-have collection of his four previous books of poetry plus a selection of new, unpublished work.

baseball concrete poem: An Eyeball in My Garden Jennifer Cole Judd, Laura Wynkoop, 2010 A collection of frightening and not so frightening poems for children.

baseball concrete poem: When Green Becomes Tomatoes Julie Fogliano, 2016-03-01 december 29 and i woke to a morning that was quiet and white the first snow (just like magic) came on tip toes overnight Flowers blooming in sheets of snow make way for happy frogs dancing in the rain. Summer swims move over for autumn sweaters until the snow comes back again. In Julie Fogliano's skilled hand and illustrated by Julie Morstad's charming pictures, the seasons come to life in this gorgeous and comprehensive book of poetry.

baseball concrete poem: Technically, It's Not My Fault John Grandits, 2004 An eleven-year-old boy named Robert voices typical-and not so typical-middle-grade concerns in this unique, memorable collection of hilarious poems. His musings cover the usual stuff, like pizza, homework, thank-you notes, and his annoying older sister. In addition, he speculates about professional wrestling for animals, wonders why no one makes scratch-and-sniff fart stickers, designs the ultimate roller coaster (complete with poisonous spiders), and deconstructs the origins of a new word, snarpy. A playful layout and ingenious graphics extend the wry humor that is sure to resonate with readers of all ages.

baseball concrete poem: POETRY TERMS NARAYAN CHANGDER, 2024-01-24 THE POETRY TERMS MCQ (MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS) SERVES AS A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR INDIVIDUALS AIMING TO DEEPEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF VARIOUS COMPETITIVE EXAMS, CLASS TESTS, QUIZ COMPETITIONS, AND SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS. WITH ITS

EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF MCQS, THIS BOOK EMPOWERS YOU TO ASSESS YOUR GRASP OF THE SUBJECT MATTER AND YOUR PROFICIENCY LEVEL. BY ENGAGING WITH THESE MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS, YOU CAN IMPROVE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT, IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT, AND LAY A SOLID FOUNDATION. DIVE INTO THE POETRY TERMS MCQ TO EXPAND YOUR POETRY TERMS KNOWLEDGE AND EXCEL IN QUIZ COMPETITIONS, ACADEMIC STUDIES, OR PROFESSIONAL ENDEAVORS. THE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS ARE PROVIDED AT THE END OF EACH PAGE, MAKING IT EASY FOR PARTICIPANTS TO VERIFY THEIR ANSWERS AND PREPARE EFFECTIVELY.

baseball concrete poem: Language Arts Pamela J. Farris, Donna E. Werderich, 2019-01-08 From the first edition to the latest, Language Arts: Process, Product and Assessment for Diverse Classrooms has presented sound language arts theory and methodology in a nonthreatening, straightforward manner at a reasonable price. Coverage focuses on the 2017 Standards for Literacy Professionals. Each chapter identifies and addresses the standards applicable to that chapter's topics. Farris and Werderich infuse their foundational guidelines with the latest research, teaching practices, and assessment and evaluation techniques. Ideas for lesson plans, use of technological applications, internet resources, and comprehensive, up-to-date listings of children's, young adult, and multicultural fiction and nonfiction titles are among the text's outstanding features. Other features geared expressly for pre- and inservice teachers include: • Engaging, real-life classroom anecdotes • Instructional activities for reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and visually representing • Boxes containing teaching hints and mini lessons • Section on Response to Intervention (RtI) with the various tiers of intervention • Theories, instruction, and teaching activities for English language learners (ELLs) • Guidelines to meet the needs of special needs learners • Suggestions for literacy-based interdisciplinary instruction (including STEM and STEAM) • Examples of children's work to help readers understand what to expect from different ages and ability levels • Questions and assignments to strengthen readers' aptitude, awareness, and application of topics to real life

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baseball concrete poem: Integrating Multicultural Literature in Libraries and Classrooms in Secondary Schools KaaVonja Hinton, Gail K. Dickinson, 2007-05-01 Reach students across all cultures with multicultural literature! Help all students learn to read, comprehend, and gain information literacy skills through multicultural literature. Use this book to provide hands-on instruction to help students connect, learn, and achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)! Sample standards-based, integrated lesson plans and curriculum units show teachers how to really integrate multicultural materials in their lessons to help all students achieve. This is an excellent resource for teachers and librarians who teach and motivate English Language Learners (ELL) and students from all cultures.

baseball concrete poem: I'm Just No Good at Rhyming Chris Harris, 2017-09-26 The instant

New York Times bestseller featured on NPR's Weekend Edition with Scott Simon! B. J. Novak (bestselling author of *The Book With No Pictures*) described this groundbreaking poetry collection as Smart and sweet, wild and wicked, brilliantly funny--it's everything a book for kids should be. Lauded by critics as a worthy heir to such greats as Silverstein, Seuss, Nash and Lear, Harris's hilarious debut molds wit and wordplay, nonsense and oxymoron, and visual and verbal sleight-of-hand in masterful ways that make you look at the world in a whole new wonderfully upside-down way. With enthusiastic endorsements from bestselling luminaries such as Lemony Snicket, Judith Viorst, Andrea Beaty, and many others, this entirely unique collection offers a surprise around every corner. Adding to the fun: Lane Smith, bestselling creator of beloved hits like *It's a Book* and *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*, has spectacularly illustrated this extraordinary collection with nearly one hundred pieces of appropriately absurd art. It's a mischievous match made in heaven! Ridiculous, nonsensical, peculiar, outrageous, possibly deranged--and utterly, totally, absolutely delicious. Read it! Immediately! --Judith Viorst, bestselling author of *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*

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