

Formatting a Poem Lesson Plan

Title: Formatting a Poem		Grade Range: 3-5
Integrated Curriculum Area: Language Arts	Concepts and Competencies: Poetry, Formatting	Tool: Word Processing Software
Summary: Students will use a word processing program to format a poem.		

Warm-up

- Make sure students have completed the EasyTech lesson **Word Processing: Revising and Formatting** and its prerequisites.
- Share selected poems from *Here I Am*.
- Discuss how we can use poetry to express our feelings about our relationships with others.

Activity

Students reformat a poem electronically:

- Students retype the unformatted version of the poem "Pieces." (Remind them not to make any formatting changes.)
- Review the skills learned in the assigned EasyTech lessons and the functionality of the specific word processing application students will be using.
- Students use the Model and Rubric to reformat their poems to look like the Model. (Hint: hand these out only after the unformatted poem has been successfully entered and saved.)
- Students save and print their formatted poems.

Wrap-up

- Students use a word processing program to create a small collection of their favorite poems.
- Students share their collections.

Extension

- Students use a word processing program to write and format an original poem to be submitted for a classroom anthology.

Formatting a Poem Student Activity Page

Type the following poem exactly as you see it. (Use your own name and the current date.) Press "Return" or "Enter" to create spaces between verses. Do not make any formatting changes until you receive further directions from your teacher. Save and print your document:

Name

Date

Pieces

I stand alone—just me and this wheel.
The clerk said the price was an incredible deal.

With only this wheel, what can I do?
Seems something's missing...if only I knew.

I roll my wheel left. I lift it in the air.
I roll it through the mall, while all the people stare.

Hey, who's that, alone with a seat?
That looks like someone I need to meet.

You have some handlebars? You have a chain?
Let's put them together and see what we've made!

Each separate piece is not as much fun
As the bike put together, all parts joined as one.

By Lauren Scharnak and Jennifer Thede

Formatting a Poem Model

Name
Date

Pieces

I stand alone—just me and this wheel.
The clerk said the price was an incredible deal.

With only this wheel, what can I do?
Seems something's missing...if only I knew.

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Formatting A Poem Rubric

Self Evaluation

Alignment:

- _____ Name and date are right justified
- _____ Title, poem, and author are centered

Line Spacing:

- _____ Name and date are single spaced
- _____ 1.5 spacing for title, poem, and author

Font:

- _____ All text is in Arial
- _____ Title and authors are **bold**; title is underlined; authors are *italic*

Font Size:

- _____ Name, date, and author (12)
- _____ Title (14)
- _____ Poem (10)

Teacher Evaluation

Alignment:

- _____ Name and date are right justified
- _____ Title, poem, and author are centered

Line Spacing:

- _____ Name and date are single spaced
- _____ 1.5 spacing for title, poem, and author

Font:

- _____ All text is in Arial
- _____ Title and authors are **bold**; title is underlined; authors are *italic*

Font Size:

- _____ Name, date, and author (12)
- _____ Title (14)
- _____ Poem (10)

Formatting a Poem Resources

Baron, Virginia Olsen, ed. Here I Am! New York: E.P. Dutton & Co., 1969.

This collection includes poetry written by children. It serves as an example for writing and formatting poetry.