

Multi-Sensory Poetry Jam

Materials Needed: Various sensory materials (fabric swatches, scented markers, auditory stimuli), examples of poetic forms

Age Group: PK- 8

Prepare the Poetry Station:

- Set up a designated area with various sensory materials and prompts to inspire creativity. Include textured materials such as fabric swatches or bubble wrap, scented materials like scented markers, and auditory stimuli such as chimes or musical instruments. Ensure that the materials are safe and accessible for both students.

Introduce the Activity:

- **I**ntroduce students to the Multi-Sensory Poetry Jam activity. Explain that they will be using the sensory materials provided to create their own poems.

Encourage Exploration:

- Invite students to explore and interact with the sensory materials at the station. Encourage them to touch, smell, and listen to the materials to stimulate their senses and spark their creativity. Offer guidance on how to use the materials effectively to inspire poetic ideas.

Provide Poetic Form Examples:

- Distribute a sheet to students that contains examples of different poetic forms such as haikus, acrostics, and free verse. Explain briefly what each form is and how it can be used to structure their poems. This sheet will serve as a guide for students as they create their own poems.

Support Creativity:

- Encourage students to create imaginative poems based on the sensory materials they interact with. Offer suggestions and assistance as needed, but emphasize that there are no right or wrong answers in poetry – the goal is to have fun and express themselves creatively.

Facilitate Performance:

- **P**rovide an opportunity for students to perform their poems aloud. Encourage expressive gestures and vocalizations to enhance their performance and build confidence in self-expression.

Celebrate Creativity:

- Conclude the activity by celebrating the creative poems that students have created. Offer praise and encouragement for their efforts, highlighting the unique perspectives and ideas expressed through their poems.

Differentiation Tips for grades PK-2:

- Provide sensory materials that are safe and easy for young children to explore, such as soft fabrics, scented stickers, and simple musical instruments like bells or shakers.

Reading Is Fundamental

until every child reads

- Offer more structured guidance during the exploration phase, directing children to specific sensory materials and providing prompts to stimulate their creativity.
- Demonstrate simple poetic forms like acrostics or rhyming couplets using familiar words or phrases. Encourage children to mimic or adapt these forms in their own poems.

Differentiation Tips for grades 3-5:

- Include a wider variety of sensory materials with more complexity, such as different textures of fabrics, a range of scents, and a mix of musical instruments or recorded sounds.
- Introduce more advanced poetic forms beyond the basics, such as sonnets or limericks, and provide examples with explanations on how they differ from simpler forms.

Differentiation Tips for grades 6-8:

- Provide opportunities for students to explore a wider range of poetic forms, including more experimental or contemporary forms like concrete poetry or found poetry.