

Shape Poems

What is a shape poem?

A shape poem is a type of poem that describes an object and is written in the shape of the object that is being described. Shape poems are also sometimes known as concrete or pattern poems. The way the poem is organised and displayed is often just as important in conveying the meaning of the poem as the actual written words.

What is the structure of a shape poem?

Shape poems do not have rules on the amount of words, lines, verses, syllables or rhymes that are needed. They simply need to describe an object and be written in the shape of that object.

An example of a shape poem:

Stars are so bright they
shine like the sun.
They are above us and
around us all lit up in
the sky. When the time
comes for the sun to set,
the stars come to life.
Wish upon a shooting
star and good things will
come from afar.

My Shape Poem Planning Sheet

Before you begin writing your shape poem, you should start by writing down different ideas that you have about your particular topic or object. Use the following template to help you with your ideas.

Choose a topic or object for your poem: _____

List adjectives that you can use to describe your topic or object:

Think about your five senses; touch, sight, sound, taste and smell, and list sense words that describe your topic or object:

What shape will your poem be? Draw an outline or a sketch in the box below:

My Shape Poem