Found Poem Project Plan

Check out our Found Poem resources: a student-facing how-to video and a ready-to-use student activity!

Phase 1: Ideation & Research

Explore the text; identify its central theme; isolate words.

Phase 2: Planning & Creation

Consider poetry techniques learned from the WAGOLL; organize words & ideas; write the poem.

Phase 3: Publication & Assessment

Share poems with an authentic audience and assess, reflect, & revise.

01 Teacher Ideates



- Identify student needs & curricular goals.
- Select a WAGOLL for students to study.
- Identify a community partner to support student work. For found poems, consider using work published by community partners.

02 Students Ideate



- Study and unpack the WAGOLL(s).
- Create a rubric with teacher based on poetry study.
- Read the assigned or chosen text.
- Identify the text's central theme, argument, or compelling question.

03 Research



- Skim the text looking for words that align with the central theme, argument, or complelling question.
- Write down the words or phrases as they are identified.
- Refine the text's theme, argument, or compelling question as needed.

04 Plan



- Reflect on the collected words.
- Circle words that stand out or feel particularly powerful.
- Return to the WAGOLL(s) & consider what aspects of its techniques and structure might be worth trying.

05 Create



- Flash draft the poem.
- Engage in a cycle of draft → revise → seek feedback → repeat.
- Return to the WAGOLL(s) throughout writing.
- Refine the poem with the intended audience in mind.

06 Publish



- Teacher identifies how poems will be shared.
- Students share or present poems.
- Students gather feedback from authentic audiences.

07 Assess & Revise



- Students reflect on the process and final product.
- Teacher assesses using the rubric developed throughout the project.
- Incorporate feedback and revise.
- Evaluate both disciplinary learning and the skills practiced throughout the project.

WAGOLLs as a Mentor Text | *Return to and learn from WAGOLLs ("What a Good One Looks Like") throughout the project.* →

Community Partners & Authentic Audience | *Engage with a community partner early and keep your intended audience in mind throughout.* →

FEEDBACK • ASSESSMENT • REFLECTION • REVISION | *Happen throughout all phases of the project.*

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