



Shape Poetry

Making Shapes with Words

Shape poems are images made out of words. Shape poems can be full sentences, phrases, or even single words in the shape of the object they describe.

Beginner: Look at shape poems with your child (down below).

[Tip]: Ask your child to point out words that they recognize.

Intermediate: Help your child create simple shape poems with words or short phrases.

[Tip]: Describe the park, the characteristics of a tree, the colours of a rainbow.

Experienced: Encourage your child to write a few descriptive sentences and help them form the sentences into a shape that relates to their description.

[Tip]: “Descriptive writing often includes the five senses (sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch) as well as emotions.

Why is this important? Shape poetry offers a fun way to develop vocabulary and build interest in reading and writing.

Looking for more information? Scroll down to see Shape Poetry examples!

References: Maynard, S., Davies, J. E., & Robinson, R. (2005). Poetry for pleasure: promoting poetry to children in public libraries. *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*, 37(1), 35–43.
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Mueller, L. (1969). Concrete poetry: Creative writing for all students. *The English Journal*, 58(7), 1053–1056.
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A
tent,
a slice
of melon
or cake.
What shape
do they take?
They're triangles!

A Pizza,
A Pie. The Pup,
of your eye. A
Spinning Wheel,
or a Clock to
tell time. All
Circles!

Crackers and
cheese, the
same shape you
know? A nice
wrapped present,
or a comfy Pillow.
They're Square!