



Response

Poetry

RESPONSE POETRY

- A response poem RESPONDS to an existing poem
- It should match visually and structurally
- Your poem should visual mirror the existing poem
- Have a conversation

RESPONSE POETRY

Analyze the poem's structure

- Form, meter, and rhyme scheme
- The number of syllables in each line is a clue to its structure
- Arrangement of verses (stanzas)

Look at the poet's use of language

- If the word choice seems unusual, ask why the poet chose these words
- How does language sound like music? Pay attention to tone and rhythm
- Metaphor, simile, alliteration, symbolism and imagery

Interpret the meaning of the poem

- What is the main idea the poet is trying to communicate?
- What kind of emotional response does it evoke in a reader?
- Note the use of narrative voice and setting

To Catch a Fish by Eloise Greenfield

It takes more than a wish
to catch a fish
you take the hook
you add the bait
you concentrate
and then you wait
you wait you wait
but not a bite
the fish don't have
an appetite
so tell them what
good bait you've got
and how your bait
can hit the spot
this works a whole
lot better than
a wish
if you really
want to catch
a fish

To Throw a Ball by Catherine Lee

It takes more than a wish
to throw a ball
you take the glove
you add the hand
you concentrate
and then you watch
you watch you watch
but not a walk
the hitters won't have
a chance
so tell them what
good curve balls you've got
and how your throw
can hit the box
this works a whole
lot better than
a wish
if you really
want to throw
a ball