

## Concrete Poetry

*An extension of "Emojis: a new language for a digital age"*

The article "Emojis: a new language for a digital age," (pages 14 and 15, *What's Up* September 2017) explains how simple images are helping people to express their feelings and thoughts. Concrete poetry, like emojis, uses imagery to express thoughts and ideas in a simple but effective way. It is a wonderful alternative for people who find traditional poetry difficult. It is easy and fun. Let's give it a try.

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Individually, read "Creating concrete poetry" (page 15). It explains clearly how to write concrete poetry.
2. Poem 1 is an example done using the steps given in page 15. Read it and give it a title in the space below it.
3. Based on the outline given for Poem 2 draft your own poem on a separate sheet of paper, using the given starting phrases. Use six to twelve sentences to complete it. Next, trace the outline for Poem 2 onto another piece of paper in pencil. Fill the outline with your own poem. Write it in ink. Erase the pencil outline. You may write your poem in colour.
4. On the reverse of this page create another concrete poem using an image of your choice. Some suggestions – dog, lizard, bird, candle, rice bowl, knife, electric iron and so on.

Oh dear!  
Oh dear!  
It's getting dark  
Rain clouds  
are forming  
The sun is setting  
fast. It's getting  
dark. It's getting  
dark. Turn me on.  
Turn me on. They  
need light. Children  
coming home from  
school. Mummy's rushing  
home to cook dinner.  
Daddy's driving home.  
Turn me on. Turn me  
on quick. They need  
light. They need light  
They need me to  
shine.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title  
(Poem 1)

### Poem 2

Meeeeeow! It's been such a  
lazy day. I'm going back  
to sleep. Purr... Hey  
what's that moving  
behind....

