

**Forgotten Voices Poetry Group  
at the Indian Valley Public Library  
*Poetry Workshop 2008*  
*Thursday Evenings at 7pm*  
*18 Sept - 16 Oct - 20 Nov***

**Tools**

Wading Pool	Index Cards
Words	Permanent Marker
Crayons	Pads of Paper
Clothes Line	Clothes Pins
Poetry Books	Picture Dictionary
Flip Chart	Markers
Name Tags	Stickers

**Room Set-Up:** Chairs in circle around the pool filled with words (various nouns, verbs, and adjectives) written on index cards. In separate corners of the room, post a simple sign with the name of the group leader and sticker image (eg flowers, smiley faces, and bumble bees) for each workshop group.

**Workshop Title:** Take a Dip in the Pool of Words

**Agenda**

1. Introduction and Pick a Word – *Facilitator, Joanne Leva*
  - a. Name tags to display the sticker for the particular workshop group the student will break out into (eg the flowers, the smiley faces, and the bumble bees)

- b. Go around the circle and have each person share his or her name, grade, and what school they attend
- c. Identify Group Leaders

2. Theme: Imaging and Describing – *Facilitator, Joanne Leva*

- a. Go around the circle and have each group leader read one poem, which they have selected, with the group  
(eg Dr. Seuss, Shel Silverstein)
- b. Think about what makes reading and writing poetry different than prose
  - On the page?
  - The rhythm?
  - Are there pictures, images, and sometimes rhyme in both poetry and prose?
- c. Close your eyes and imagine your word
  - What images come to mind?
  - What words would you use to describe these images?
  - Is your word a noun, verb, or adjective?
  - Why would that make a difference?

3. Determine Word Groups – *Small Groups by sticker image (eg flowers, smiley faces, and bumble bees)*

- a. Break into groups
- b. Describe your image with simple words
- c. Illustrate your word and image(s) with crayons
- d. Share your image with your group (Optional)

4. Group Writing Project – *Facilitator, Group Leader*

- a. Group poem includes everyone's word and/or description and image in some way

\*Remember to use the images the words evoke to write the poem (use synonyms)

- Try to tell a story
- Experiment by using some words more than once
- Add other words
- Try to write a poem using everyone's word

b. Group determines title of poem

5. Return to Circle – *Facilitator, Joanne Leva*

- Share group poems
- Ask: “What surprised you?”
- Ask: “Was it fun?” (If no, not fun, ask, “What would have made it fun?”)
- Go around the circle and have students raise their hands to share their thoughts about writing (Optional)

6. Conclusion

- Next month's workshop will be about Mind-Mapping
- Thursday, October 16 at 7pm

7. Refreshments