

baseball concrete poems

baseball concrete poems represent a unique fusion of sport and art, where the shape and form of the poem visually depict the essence of baseball. These poems go beyond traditional verse by arranging words, letters, and lines into patterns that resemble baseball-related images such as balls, bats, gloves, or baseball fields. This creative literary approach offers a dynamic way to appreciate baseball's cultural significance while showcasing poetic artistry. In this article, the exploration of baseball concrete poems covers their definition, history, techniques, and examples. Additionally, the discussion highlights how these poems can be used in education and creative writing to engage audiences and deepen their connection with the sport. Readers will gain insight into how baseball concrete poems blend visual design with language to create compelling, memorable works. The following sections provide a comprehensive overview of this intriguing poetic form and its relationship with the beloved American pastime.

- Understanding Baseball Concrete Poems
- Techniques and Styles in Baseball Concrete Poetry
- Famous Examples of Baseball Concrete Poems
- Educational Applications of Baseball Concrete Poems
- Creating Your Own Baseball Concrete Poems

Understanding Baseball Concrete Poems

Baseball concrete poems are a type of shaped poetry that visually represents themes, objects, or scenes related to baseball. Unlike conventional poems that focus solely on verbal expression, concrete poems integrate visual elements where the text layout forms images. In the context of baseball, this might mean poems shaped like a baseball diamond, a bat, or a baseball itself. The arrangement enhances the poem's meaning by linking the visual shape with the subject matter, creating a multisensory reading experience.

Definition and Characteristics

Concrete poetry is defined by its emphasis on the spatial arrangement of text as a critical part of the poem's message. Baseball concrete poems adopt this principle by shaping words to reflect iconic baseball imagery. These poems often utilize typography, spacing, and line breaks to simulate objects or actions from the game. Key characteristics include:

- Text arranged to form baseball-related shapes
- Use of baseball terminology and imagery

- Integration of visual and verbal elements for enhanced meaning
- Creative manipulation of font size, style, and alignment

Historical Context

The roots of concrete poetry can be traced back to the early 20th century avant-garde movements, but the specific focus on baseball themes emerged as poets sought to connect popular culture with literary experimentation. Baseball, as America's pastime, has inspired numerous poets who use concrete poetry to pay homage to the sport's cultural impact. This fusion gained traction particularly in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, as poets explored innovative ways to depict their passion for baseball through visual verse.

Techniques and Styles in Baseball Concrete Poetry

Creating baseball concrete poems requires a combination of poetic skill and visual design awareness. Various techniques and styles are employed to convey the essence of baseball while maintaining poetic integrity. Understanding these approaches helps in appreciating and crafting effective baseball concrete poems.

Text Shaping and Layout

Text shaping is the core technique in concrete poetry. Poets arrange words, letters, and lines to mimic baseball elements such as:

- The circular shape of a baseball
- The diamond layout of the baseball field
- The elongated form of a bat
- The pattern of stitches on a baseball

The layout often requires precise spacing and alignment to ensure the visual form is recognizable while preserving readability and poetic rhythm.

Use of Baseball Vocabulary and Imagery

Employing baseball-specific language enhances the thematic focus of the poem. Common terms include "home run," "strike," "pitch," "inning," and "outfield." These words are strategically placed within the visual structure to reinforce the connection between the poem's form and content. Imagery associated with baseball, such as crowds, gloves, bases, and stadiums, can also be evoked through descriptive language and textual arrangement.

Typography and Font Choices

Typography plays a significant role in emphasizing aspects of the poem. Variations in font size, weight, and style can simulate motion, energy, or emphasis on certain baseball actions or emotions. For example, bold fonts might highlight the impact of a bat hitting the ball, while italicized text could suggest the speed of a pitch. These typographic choices contribute to the poem's dynamism and visual appeal.

Famous Examples of Baseball Concrete Poems

Several poets have gained recognition for their innovative baseball concrete poems, illustrating the diversity and creativity within this niche. These examples serve as inspiration and benchmarks for understanding the form's potential.

“Home Run” by George Starbuck

George Starbuck's “Home Run” is a notable example of baseball concrete poetry that captures the excitement of a home run through text arranged in a sweeping arc resembling a ball's trajectory. The poem's words mimic the motion and sound of the ball leaving the park, blending visual and auditory imagery seamlessly.

“The Baseball Diamond” by John Hollander

John Hollander's “The Baseball Diamond” utilizes the diamond shape as the poem's framework, with words positioned to represent the bases and player movements. The structure reinforces the strategic and spatial aspects of baseball, providing a layered reading experience.

Other Influential Works

Additional poets have contributed to this genre, producing works that vary in complexity and style. Some focus on minimalist designs, while others create intricate patterns incorporating multiple baseball elements. These diverse approaches demonstrate the adaptability of concrete poetry in expressing baseball themes.

Educational Applications of Baseball Concrete Poems

Baseball concrete poems offer valuable educational opportunities, combining literary analysis, creative writing, and visual arts. They can be employed in classrooms to engage students in multiple disciplines while connecting to a culturally significant sport.

Enhancing Literacy and Creativity

Students learn to appreciate poetry's flexibility by exploring how form and content interact. Creating baseball concrete poems encourages vocabulary development, metaphorical thinking, and spatial reasoning. It promotes an understanding of how language can be manipulated to convey meaning beyond traditional sentence structures.

Integrating Sports and Arts Education

Baseball concrete poems provide a platform for integrating physical education concepts with arts and humanities. Teachers can leverage students' interest in baseball to foster enthusiasm for poetry and design. Activities may include:

- Analyzing baseball-themed poems for literary devices
- Designing poems shaped like baseball equipment or icons
- Collaborative projects combining writing, drawing, and performance

Developing Presentation and Critical Thinking Skills

Students can present their poems, explaining their design choices and thematic intentions. This process sharpens communication skills and encourages critical reflection on how visual and verbal elements work together.

Creating Your Own Baseball Concrete Poems

Composing baseball concrete poems involves both imaginative and technical skills. The following guidelines assist poets and educators in crafting effective works that celebrate baseball through visual poetry.

Step-by-Step Process

1. **Select a Baseball Theme:** Choose a specific aspect of baseball to inspire the poem, such as a memorable play, equipment, or the atmosphere of a game.
2. **Gather Relevant Vocabulary:** Compile baseball-related terms and phrases that convey the chosen theme.
3. **Plan the Visual Shape:** Decide on the form the poem will take (e.g., baseball, bat, diamond) and sketch a rough outline.
4. **Write the Poem:** Compose verses incorporating the vocabulary, focusing on rhythm and

imagery.

5. **Arrange the Text:** Position the words and lines to fit the planned shape, adjusting spacing and alignment for clarity and visual impact.
6. **Refine and Edit:** Review the poem for coherence, aesthetic balance, and typographic consistency.

Tools and Resources

Various digital tools can aid in designing concrete poems, including word processors with advanced layout options and graphic design software. Additionally, poetry anthologies and baseball literature provide inspiration and reference material.

Tips for Success

- Maintain readability by balancing shape and text clarity
- Use repetition and sound devices to enhance the poem's musicality
- Experiment with different font sizes and styles to convey motion or emphasis
- Seek feedback from peers to improve the poem's impact

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a baseball concrete poem?

A baseball concrete poem is a type of poem where the words are arranged on the page to form a shape related to baseball, such as a baseball, bat, glove, or diamond, visually representing the theme of the poem.

How can I create a baseball concrete poem?

To create a baseball concrete poem, first write a poem about baseball, then arrange the words on the page to form a shape associated with baseball, like a ball or bat, using different font sizes, spacing, and line breaks to enhance the visual effect.

What are some common shapes used in baseball concrete

poems?

Common shapes include a baseball, baseball bat, glove, home plate, baseball diamond, or even a pitcher in motion, all designed to visually represent aspects of the sport in the poem's layout.

Why use concrete poetry to write about baseball?

Concrete poetry adds a visual dimension to the poem, making the theme of baseball more engaging and expressive by combining the sport's imagery with poetic language, enhancing the reader's experience.

Can children use baseball concrete poems to learn about poetry?

Yes, baseball concrete poems are a fun and creative way for children to learn about poetry, combining their interest in sports with artistic expression, helping them understand poetic concepts and visual storytelling.

Are there famous examples of baseball concrete poems?

While there are no widely known famous baseball concrete poems, many educators and poets create original works that celebrate baseball through this form, often shared in classrooms and poetry workshops.

What tools can help me design a baseball concrete poem?

You can use graphic design software like Adobe Illustrator, free tools like Canva, or even word processors with text box and shape features to arrange your poem's words into baseball-related shapes.

Additional Resources

1. *Diamond Shapes: Baseball Concrete Poems*

This collection features a variety of concrete poems shaped like baseball diamonds, bats, and balls. Each poem captures the spirit of America's favorite pastime through innovative visual forms. The book blends poetry and sport, making it a unique read for fans of baseball and creative verse alike.

2. *Home Run Verses: A Visual Celebration of Baseball*

An artistic compilation of concrete poems that celebrate the excitement of hitting home runs and the thrill of the game. The poems are arranged to mimic the motion and energy of baseball plays, providing an immersive experience. This book is perfect for readers who appreciate both poetic form and sports culture.

3. *Curveballs and Wordplays: Baseball Poetry in Shape*

Explore the unexpected twists of language and sport through concrete poems shaped like baseball gloves, balls, and bats. This book highlights the playful side of poetry while honoring the game's nuances. Readers will enjoy the creative interplay between visual art and athletic imagery.

4. *Pitch Perfect Poems: Concrete Baseball Art*

A striking collection of concrete poems that visually represent the precision and beauty of pitching. Each poem is crafted to resemble the spiral of a pitch or the outline of a mound, marrying form and function. It's an inspiring read for poetry lovers and baseball enthusiasts alike.

5. *Seventh Inning Stretch: Baseball Poems in Form*

This book offers a series of concrete poems that evoke the atmosphere of a ballpark during the iconic seventh-inning stretch. The poems take on shapes such as stadium seats, pennants, and hot dogs, enhancing the sensory experience. It's a heartfelt tribute to the tradition and communal joy of baseball.

6. *Batting Lines: Concrete Poems Inspired by Baseball*

Featuring poems arranged in the shape of bats and baseball cards, this book celebrates the sport's history and heroes. Each poem combines lyrical storytelling with striking visual design, making the words come alive on the page. It's ideal for readers who love narrative poetry and sports memorabilia.

7. *Field of Words: Baseball Concrete Poetry*

Dive into a poetic field where words are arranged like infield positions and outfield plays. This collection uses concrete poetry to explore the strategy and teamwork inherent in baseball. The creative layouts help readers visualize the game's complexity through language.

8. *Grand Slam Shapes: The Art of Baseball Poetry*

A vibrant anthology of concrete poems that capture the excitement of grand slams and game-winning moments. The poems' shapes range from bats swinging to bases being rounded, providing dynamic visual storytelling. It's a perfect blend of sport and artistic expression.

9. *Baseball in Verse and Form: Concrete Poetry for Fans*

This book combines the rhythmic cadence of baseball chants with the visual spectacle of concrete poetry. Poems are designed to look like baseball scoreboards, jerseys, and more, enhancing the thematic connection. It offers a fresh perspective on how sports and poetry can intersect creatively.

Baseball Concrete Poems

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Baseball Concrete Poems: A Unique Approach to Poetic Expression

Ever felt frustrated trying to capture the raw energy and intricate details of baseball in your writing? Do your poems fall flat, failing to truly convey the crack of the bat, the roar of the crowd, or the

quiet intensity of a pitcher's focus? You're not alone. Many writers struggle to translate the visceral experience of baseball into compelling poetry. Traditional forms often feel inadequate to capture the dynamic nature of the game. This book offers a revolutionary solution: concrete poetry.

This ebook, "Baseball Concrete Poems: Shaping the Game Through Language," provides a comprehensive guide to crafting powerful and visually stunning concrete poems inspired by the world of baseball. It unlocks your creative potential, allowing you to express the essence of the game in a fresh, engaging way. Finally, you can break free from traditional poetic constraints and bring your baseball-inspired verses to life.

Contents:

Introduction: What is Concrete Poetry? Its History and Application to Baseball.

Chapter 1: The Fundamentals of Concrete Poetry: Exploring basic techniques and principles.

Chapter 2: Baseball Imagery and Vocabulary: Identifying and utilizing key elements of the game.

Chapter 3: Crafting Concrete Poems about Specific Baseball Moments: Step-by-step guides for crafting poems based on different aspects of the game (e.g., a home run, a stolen base, a close call).

Chapter 4: Advanced Techniques in Baseball Concrete Poetry: Exploring typography, layout, and visual metaphors.

Chapter 5: Publishing and Sharing Your Work: Tips for showcasing and sharing your creations.

Conclusion: Reflecting on the creative process and continuing your poetic journey.

Baseball Concrete Poems: Shaping the Game Through Language

Introduction: Unlocking the Power of Visual Poetry in Baseball

Concrete poetry, also known as shape poetry, is a form of poetry where the visual arrangement of words on the page is as important as the words themselves. Unlike traditional forms that rely primarily on rhythm and rhyme, concrete poetry utilizes the physical layout of the text to create a visual representation of the poem's subject. In the context of baseball, this offers a unique opportunity to capture the dynamism, action, and even the emotional intensity of the game in a completely new and engaging way. This introduction will delve into the history and principles of concrete poetry, highlighting its potential as a powerful tool for capturing the essence of baseball.

The history of concrete poetry traces back to the early 20th century, with influences from Dadaism and other avant-garde movements. Early examples often experimented with unusual typographical arrangements, breaking away from traditional linear structures. Since then, concrete poetry has evolved, incorporating various techniques and styles, but always retaining its core principle: the visual form is integral to the poem's meaning.

The application of concrete poetry to baseball offers a compelling way to represent the visual and kinetic aspects of the game. Imagine a poem depicting a soaring home run, where the words literally arc across the page, mimicking the ball's trajectory. Or a poem about a close play at the plate, where

the tension is conveyed through the tightly clustered and overlapping words. These examples demonstrate the potential for concrete poetry to create powerful and engaging experiences for both the writer and the reader. This ebook will guide you through the process of transforming your baseball passion into stunning visual works of art.

Chapter 1: The Fundamentals of Concrete Poetry: Building Blocks of Visual Verse

This chapter will cover the essential building blocks of concrete poetry, providing a foundation for your creative exploration. We will explore key techniques and principles, ensuring that you possess the necessary skills to craft effective and visually compelling poems.

Understanding Shape and Structure: Concrete poems are fundamentally about shape. The poem's shape mirrors the subject, whether it's a baseball bat, a diamond, a player's silhouette, or even an abstract representation of a particular moment in the game. We'll explore different shape possibilities, from simple geometric forms to more complex and organic designs. Consider how the shape itself adds to the meaning and emotional impact of the poem. Does a wide, expansive shape suggest a grand slam? Does a narrow, pointed shape reflect the tension of a close pitch?

Word Choice and Placement: Word placement is crucial. The careful arrangement of words, both in terms of their location and their relationship to each other, contributes significantly to the poem's overall impact. We'll learn to strategically position words to emphasize certain elements, create visual movement, and build visual tension. We will explore techniques like creating visual metaphors through the arrangement of words. For example, the words "fastball" can be placed to resemble a speeding baseball.

Typography and Font Selection: The choice of font significantly impacts the poem's visual appeal. Different fonts evoke different moods and aesthetics. A bold, strong font might suit a poem about a powerful home run, while a more delicate font might be better for a poem reflecting on a quiet moment in the game. We will discuss the impact of font size, style, and kerning (the spacing between letters) on the overall effect.

Experimentation and Iteration: Concrete poetry is an iterative process. Don't be afraid to experiment with different shapes, word arrangements, and fonts. The first draft is rarely the final product. This chapter will encourage a process of trial and error, showing you how to refine your work through experimentation and revision.

Chapter 2: Baseball Imagery and Vocabulary: Fueling

Your Creative Engine

This chapter dives into the rich imagery and vocabulary inherent in baseball, providing you with the linguistic tools necessary to create impactful concrete poems. We will explore techniques for translating the sights, sounds, and emotions of the game into compelling poetic language.

Sensory Details: Baseball is a game rich in sensory details. The crack of the bat, the smell of freshly cut grass, the roar of the crowd, the feel of the ball in the glove – these sensory experiences are key to creating vivid and immersive concrete poems. We will explore techniques for evoking these sensations using precise and evocative language.

Figurative Language: Figurative language, such as metaphors, similes, and personification, can be effectively used to enhance the poetic imagery. We'll explore how to use these techniques to add depth and nuance to your concrete poems. For instance, a pitcher might be personified as a "master of deception," while a home run might be described as "a rocket soaring into the night."

Specific Baseball Terminology: Utilizing specific baseball terms can add authenticity and precision to your work. We'll explore the evocative power of terms like "curveball," "slider," "bunt," and "sacrifice fly," and how they can be integrated into the visual structure of your poems.

The Emotional Landscape of Baseball: Baseball encompasses a wide range of emotions: triumph, defeat, anticipation, tension, camaraderie. We'll explore how to capture these emotions in your concrete poems, using word choice, layout, and visual elements to convey the appropriate mood.

Chapter 3: Crafting Concrete Poems about Specific Baseball Moments

This chapter will provide step-by-step guides for creating concrete poems based on specific baseball moments. We will explore various aspects of the game, offering practical exercises and examples to guide your creative process.

The Home Run: We'll dissect the process of creating a concrete poem representing a home run, focusing on capturing the trajectory of the ball, the excitement of the crowd, and the triumphant feeling of the batter.

The Stolen Base: We'll examine how to depict the speed, agility, and risk associated with a stolen base, using the visual elements of the poem to convey the sense of urgency and deception.

The Close Play at the Plate: We'll delve into the intense tension of a close play at home plate, using

word arrangement and typography to depict the close call and the ensuing suspense.

The Pitcher's Duel: We'll explore how to capture the quiet intensity of a pitcher's duel, utilizing visual elements to suggest the strategic battle between pitcher and batter.

The Final Out: We'll explore the emotions associated with the final out of a game, whether it be victory or defeat, and how to express these contrasting emotions through visual poetry.

Chapter 4: Advanced Techniques in Baseball Concrete Poetry: Pushing Creative Boundaries

This chapter delves into more advanced techniques, pushing the boundaries of creative expression. We will explore innovative approaches to typography, layout, and visual metaphors, expanding your repertoire and enhancing your creative toolkit.

Typography as a Visual Metaphor: We'll explore the use of specialized fonts, unusual typefaces, and even handwritten elements to create visual metaphors that enhance the meaning of your poems.

Complex Layouts and Arrangements: We'll move beyond simple shapes and explore more complex layouts and arrangements, using techniques like layering, overlapping, and fragmentation to create visually arresting pieces.

Integration of Visual Elements: We'll discuss the possibility of incorporating other visual elements, such as drawings, photographs, or digital art, to further enhance the visual impact of your concrete poems.

Exploring Different Styles and Approaches: We'll examine different styles of concrete poetry and encourage experimentation with various techniques to develop a unique and personal style.

Chapter 5: Publishing and Sharing Your Work: Showcasing Your Talent

This chapter focuses on the practical aspects of sharing your work with the world. We will discuss different avenues for publishing and promoting your concrete poems.

Online Platforms and Social Media: We'll explore various online platforms and social media channels to effectively showcase your work to a wider audience.

Literary Magazines and Journals: We'll discuss the process of submitting your work to literary magazines and journals that may publish concrete poetry.

Creating a Portfolio: We'll guide you through the process of creating a comprehensive portfolio of your work to present to potential publishers or collaborators.

Self-Publishing Options: We'll discuss the advantages and disadvantages of self-publishing your collection of baseball concrete poems.

Conclusion: The Ongoing Journey of Creative Expression

This concluding chapter will reflect on the creative process and encourage continued exploration. We'll emphasize the importance of persistent practice and experimentation in developing your unique voice as a concrete poet. We'll also offer suggestions for future explorations within the world of baseball concrete poetry, encouraging you to continually push the boundaries of your creative expression.

FAQs

1. What is concrete poetry? Concrete poetry, or shape poetry, is a type of poetry where the visual arrangement of words on the page is as important as the meaning of the words themselves.
2. How is concrete poetry different from traditional poetry? Unlike traditional forms, which primarily rely on rhythm, rhyme, and meter, concrete poetry uses visual elements to convey meaning and enhance the reader's experience.
3. What are some examples of visual elements used in concrete poetry? Examples include the shape of the poem, word placement, typography, font selection, and even the incorporation of other visual elements like illustrations.
4. Is it necessary to have a background in art or design to create concrete poems? No, while artistic sensibility is beneficial, the core skill is in arranging words visually. The book provides techniques and guides anyone can follow.

5. How can I find inspiration for baseball concrete poems? Draw inspiration from specific games, players, moments, feelings, sounds, smells, or even the history of baseball.
6. What software is recommended for creating concrete poems? Any word processing program with advanced formatting options can be used, although design software offers more advanced options.
7. Where can I share my baseball concrete poems? You can share your work online through blogs, social media, poetry websites, or submit it to literary magazines.
8. What if I struggle to come up with ideas? The book offers exercises and prompts to help you generate ideas and overcome creative blocks.
9. Can I use this book even if I am a beginner in poetry? Yes, this book is designed for writers of all skill levels, including beginners. It provides a step-by-step guide to the process.

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baseball concrete poems: Wet Cement Bob Raczka, 2016-03-08 Who says words need to be concrete? This collection shapes poems in surprising and delightful ways. Concrete poetry is a

perennially popular poetic form because they are fun to look at. But by using the arrangement of the words on the page to convey the meaning of the poem, concrete or shape poems are also easy to write! From the author of the incredibly inventive *Lemonade: And Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word* comes another clever collection that shows kids how to look at words and poetry in a whole new way.

baseball concrete poems: Ode to a Commode Brian P. Cleary, 2014-10-01 Is that a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a poem! Concrete poems are shaped like their subjects. They can look like objects, animals, or even people. You won't find many straight lines here! Award-winning author Brian P. Cleary explains how concrete poems work—and uses them to create all sorts of wild wordplay. *Ode to a Commode* is packed with mind-bending poems to make you puzzle and ponder. And when you've finished reading, you can try your hand at writing your own concrete poems!

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baseball concrete poems: Good Sports Jack Prelutsky, 2011-03-02 Exhilarating, all-new, kid-friendly rhymes capture the range of emotions, from winning to losing to the sheer joy of participating, that children experience as they discover the games of their choice. Jack Prelutsky, a virtuoso at making poetry fun for the elementary school crowd, includes in this inspired collection poems about baseball, soccer, football, skating, swimming, gymnastics, basketball, karate, and more. His signature lighthearted humor in verse that trips off the tongue is coupled here with the 2006 Caldecott Medal winner Chris Raschka's lickety-split, stylized (and stylish) watercolors. Every page is a blaze of color and motion. Whether *Good Sports* will create good sports remains to be seen, but it will prove to young boys (and girls) that reading poetry can be fun.

baseball concrete poems: The Last-place Sports Poems of Jeremy Bloom Gordon Korman, Bernice Korman, 1996 Sports. That's Jeremy Bloom's topic. He's not psyched about spending another year writing poetry, but maybe it won't be as bad as he thinks. He and his friends Chad and Michael join every team the school has - football, soccer, hockey, basketball, and baseball! At first, the guys are unstoppable, undefeated! But when Mrs. Stegowitz decides to become a fan, suddenly the guys are headed for a never-ending losing streak. Jeremy's glory poems ache with the agony of defeat. But surprisingly... he keeps writing. Could poetry be actually as cool as sports?

baseball concrete poems: No More Poems! Rhett Miller, 2019-03-05 Acclaimed singer-songwriter Rhett Miller teams up with Caldecott Medalist and bestselling artist Dan Santat in a riotous collection of irreverent poems for modern families. In the tradition of Shel Silverstein, these poems bring a fresh new twist to the classic dilemmas of childhood as well as a perceptive eye to the foibles of modern family life. Full of clever wordplay and bright visual gags--and toilet humor to spare--these twenty-three rhyming poems make for an ideal read-aloud experience. Taking on the subjects of a bullying baseball coach and annoying little brothers with equally sly humor, renowned lyricist Rhett Miller's clever verses will have the whole family cackling.

baseball concrete poems: Technically, It's Not My Fault John Grandits, 2004 An eleven-year-old boy named Robert voices typical-and not so typical-middle-grade concerns in this unique, memorable collection of hilarious poems. His musings cover the usual stuff, like pizza, homework, thank-you notes, and his annoying older sister. In addition, he speculates about professional wrestling for animals, wonders why no one makes scratch-and-sniff fart stickers, designs the ultimate roller coaster (complete with poisonous spiders), and deconstructs the origins of a new word, snarpy. A playful layout and ingenious graphics extend the wry humor that is sure to resonate with readers of all ages.

baseball concrete poems: The Back Chamber Donald Hall, 2011 The first full-length volume of poems in a decade by the former poet laureate of the United States In *The Back Chamber*, Donald

Hall illuminates the evocative, iconic objects of deep memory—a cowbell, a white stone perfectly round, a three-legged milking stool—that serve to foreground the rich meditations on time and mortality that run through his remarkable new collection. While Hall's devoted readers will recognize many of his long-standing preoccupations—baseball, the family farm, love, sex, and friendship—what will strike them as new is the fierce, pitiless poignancy he reveals as his own life's end comes into view. The Back Chamber is far from being death-haunted, but rather is lively, irreverent, erotic, hilarious, ironic, and sly—full of the life-affirming energy that has made Donald Hall one of America's most popular and enduring poets.

baseball concrete poems: My Head Lives Here Mia Shparaga, 2019-10-31 This book is a residence for thoughts that cannot live inside a head. The majority of the poems in this collection endeavor to articulate the often-overwhelming elusiveness of the world around us. Each piece intends to invoke an image that relates to moments in our life that we relive every now and then – flavoring our conscious with either hints of nostalgia or the essence of apprehension. Those moments that have been hidden away in our deepest memories, displaced by the bustling substance of “things that matter.” Throughout the text, there is an obvious evolution of emotional depth and complexity in my perception of the adequate words to say. Yet, the entire collection represents my current state as a new author, aspiring to emulate the effortless yet profound simplicity of words as art. As an extension of my own reality, the world inside these pages explores the extremes of emotion that are sometimes better read than felt.

baseball concrete poems: Joe DiMaggio Moves Like Liquid Light Loren Broaddus, 2019-09-10 A collection of poetry and quotes about baseball—and about so much more. The diamond is the backdrop for Loren Broaddus's exploration of nostalgia, family, race, jazz, and the winding hallways of history. Joe DiMaggio is sometimes domestic, sometimes political—microscopic here, aerial there. While Broaddus's poems may start at home plate, he sends them flying in all directions: sometimes into left field, sometimes out of the park entirely.

baseball concrete poems: Using Poetry Across the Curriculum Barbara Chatton, 2010-01-13 This comprehensive listing and discussion of poetic works supports the standards of all areas of the curriculum, helping librarians and teachers working with kindergarten through middle school students. This second edition of *Using Poetry Across the Curriculum: Learning to Love Language* offers a comprehensive list of poetry anthologies, poetic picture books, and poetic prose works in a wide variety of subject areas. While it maintains the original edition's focus on ideas and resource lists for integration of poetry into all areas of the curriculum, it is thoroughly revised to cover current issues in education and the wealth of new poetry books available. The book is organized by subject areas commonly taught in elementary and middle schools, and, within these, by the national standards in each area. Numerous examples of poetry and poetic prose that can be used to help students understand and appreciate aspects of the standard are listed. A sampling of units that arise from groups of works, writing and performance ideas, and links across the curriculum is also included. While many teaching ideas and topics provide references to the standards they meet, this title is unique in starting with those standards and making links across them.

baseball concrete poems: A Poke in the I Paul B. Janeczko, Christopher Raschka, 2001 Offers a collection of poetry for young readers from numerous visual poets, including Maureen W. Armour and John Hollander.

baseball concrete poems: Guyku Bob Raczka, 2010-10-04 The wind and I play tug-of-war with my new kite. The wind is winning. When you're a guy, nature is one big playground—no matter what the season. There are puddles to splash in the spring, pine trees to climb in the summer, maple seeds to catch in the fall, and icicles to swordfight with in the winter. Nature also has a way of making a guy appreciate important stuff—like how many rocks it takes to dam up a stream, or how much snow equals a day off from school. So what kind of poetry best captures these special moments, at a length that lets guys get right back to tree-climbing and kite-flying? Why, guyku, of course!

baseball concrete poems: Come on All You Ghosts Matthew Zapruder, 2010 Charming,

melancholy, hip.--Publishers Weekly, starred review Zapruder's innovative style is provocative in its unusual juxtapositions of line, image and enjambments. . . . Highly recommended.--Library Journal
 Matthew Zapruder's third book mixes humor and invention with love and loss, as when the breath of a lover is compared to a field of titanium gravestones / growing warmer in the sun. The title poem is an elegy for the heroes and mentors in the poet's life--from David Foster Wallace to the poet's father. Zapruder's poems are direct and surprising, and throughout the book he wrestles with the desire to do well, to make art, and to face the vast events of the day. Look out scientists! Today the unemployment rate is 9.4 percent. I have no idea what that means. I tried to think about it harder for a while. Then tried standing in an actual stance of mystery and not knowing towards the world. Which is my job. As is staring at the back yard and for one second believing I am actually rising away from myself. Which is maybe what I have in common right now with you . . . Matthew Zapruder holds degrees from Amherst College, UC Berkeley, and the University of Massachusetts. He is the author of two previous books, including *The Pajamaist*, which won the William Carlos Williams Award and was honored by Library Journal with a Best Poetry Book of the Year listing. He lives in San Francisco and is an editor at Wave Books.

baseball concrete poems: *Lemonade: and Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word* Bob Raczka, 2011-03-15 Part anagram, part rebus, part riddle - this brand new poetic form turns word puzzles into poetry.

baseball concrete poems: *The Throne of the Third Heaven of the Nations Millennium General Assembly* Denis Johnson, 2009-03-03 From the award-winning poet and novelist—a must-have collection of his four previous books of poetry plus a selection of new, unpublished work.

baseball concrete poems: *Flicker Flash* Joan Bransfield Graham, 1999 A collection of shape poems celebrating light in its various forms, from candles and lamps to lightning and fireflies.

baseball concrete poems: *The Crossover* Kwame Alexander, 2014 New York Times bestseller • Newbery Medal Winner • Coretta Scott King Honor Award • 2015 YALSA 2015 Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults • 2015 YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers • Publishers Weekly Best Book • School Library Journal Best Book • Kirkus Best Book A beautifully measured novel of life and line.--The New York Times Book Review With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering, announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood from Kwame Alexander. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.

baseball concrete poems: *Good Bones* Maggie Smith, 2020-07-15 Featuring “Good Bones”—called “Official Poem of 2016” by the BBC/Public Radio International. Maggie Smith writes out of the experience of motherhood, inspired by watching her own children read the world like a book they've just opened, knowing nothing of the characters or plot. These are poems that stare down darkness while cultivating and sustaining possibility, poems that have a sense of moral gravitas, personal urgency, and the ability to address a larger world. Maggie Smith's previous books are *The Well Speaks of Its Own Poison* (Tupelo, 2015), *Lamp of the Body* (Red Hen, 2005), and three prize-winning chapbooks: *Disasterology* (Dream Horse, 2016), *The List of Dangers* (Kent State, 2010), and *Nesting Dolls* (Pudding House, 2005). Her poem “Good Bones” has gone viral—tweeted and translated across the world, featured on the TV drama *Madam Secretary*, and called the “Official Poem of 2016” by the BBC/Public Radio International, earning news coverage in the New York Times, Washington Post, Slate, the Guardian, and beyond. Maggie Smith was named the 2016 Ohio Poet of the Year. “Smith's voice is clear and unmistakable as she unravels the universe, pulls at a loose thread and lets the whole thing tumble around us, sometimes beautiful, sometimes achingly hard. Truthful, tender, and unafraid of the dark....”—Ada Limón “As if lost in the soft, bewitching world of fairy tale, Maggie Smith conceives and brings forth this metaphysical Baedeker, a

guidebook for mother and child to lead each other into a hopeful present. Smith's poems affirm the virtues of humanity: compassion, empathy, and the ability to comfort one another when darkness falls. 'There is a light,' she tells us, 'and the light is good.'—D. A. Powell “Good Bones is an extraordinary book. Maggie Smith demonstrates what happens when an abundance of heart and intelligence meets the hands of a master craftsman, reminding us again that the world, for a true poet, is blessedly inexhaustible.”—Erin Belieu

baseball concrete poems: *Rules of the Game* Marjorie Maddox, 2009 Here's a celebration of baseball in poetry and the poetry in baseball. Baseball is a game of fine points and grand gestures, small blunders and bold accomplishments--the hook slide into second, the humble bunt, the unexpected wild pitch, the bases-loaded home run. Poet and baseball fan Marjorie Maddox pays tribute to these and other details that make the national pastime an enduring and engaging sport for players and fans alike. Surprising wordplay and striking images offer a unique perspective of this classic American game.

baseball concrete poems: *Get Real with Storytime* Julie Dietzel-Glair, Marianne Crandall Follis Ph.D., 2015-11-10 This is a complete, year-long programming guide that shows librarians how to integrate nonfiction and poetry into storytime for preschool children in order to build literacy skills and overall knowledge. The right nonfiction titles—ones with colorful photographs and facts that are interesting to young imaginations—give librarians an opportunity to connect with children who are yearning for true stuff. Presenting poetry in storytime encourages a love of language and the chance to play with words. Written by authors with a combined 25 years of experience working with children and books in a library setting, *Get Real With Storytime: 52 Weeks of Early Literacy Programming* goes far beyond the typical storytime resource book by providing books and great ideas for using nonfiction and poetry with preschool children. This book provides a complete, year-long programming guide for librarians who work with preschool children in public libraries and school librarians who run special programs for preschoolers as well as parents, childcare providers, and camp counselors. Each of the 52 broad storytime topics (one for each week of the year) includes a sample storytime featuring an opening poem; a nonfiction title; picture books; songs, rhymes, or fingerplays; and a follow-up activity. Early literacy tips that are based on the authors' extensive experience and the principles of Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) are presented throughout the book.

baseball concrete poems: *In This Quiet Church of Night, I Say Amen* Devin Kelly, 2017-11-07 In her interview with *The Paris Review*, Joan Didion offered this credo: 'The writer is always tricking the reader into listening to the dream.' To read Devin Kelly's poetry collection, *In This Quiet Church of Night I Say Amen* is to privilege the dream. This book is an elegy for the living, the simple difficulty within and behind departure: 'Who we let go & how-I want to tell you this means more than who we stay beside.' The hard geographic lines in this collection, as we move through the industrial landscape of Appalachia to the coffee-studded sidewalks of Brooklyn, draw parcels of memories and non-memories. Such proximities ask us who we are when we are here and not here. Kelly is a poet of infinite feeling, a poet who is not afraid to bewilder his capacity to love. This book hurts the way life hurts, and Kelly promises us thus: 'Life will have, I think, its punishment for all of us.' If you grow dizzy as you read this book, it's because you haven't been breathing. These are gorgeous poems. --Natalie Eilbert, author of *Indictus* and *Swan Feast*

baseball concrete poems: *A Kick in the Head*, 2009-03-10 Readers will have the good fortune to experience poetry as art, game, joke, list, song, story, statement, question, memory. A primer like no other. — *School Library Journal* (starred review) In this splendid and playful volume — second of a trilogy — an acclaimed creative team presents examples of twenty-nine poetic forms, demonstrating not only the (sometimes bendable) rules of poetry, but also the spirit that brings these forms to life. Featuring poems from the likes of Eleanor Farjeon (aubade), X. J. Kennedy (elegy), Ogden Nash (couplet), Liz Rosenberg (pantoum), and William Shakespeare, the sonnet king himself, *A Kick in the Head* perfectly illustrates Robert Frost's maxim that poetry without rules is like a tennis match without a net. Back matter includes notes on poetic forms.

baseball concrete poems: Poor Caleb Femi, 2020-11-05 WINNER OF THE FORWARD PRIZE FOR BEST FIRST COLLECTION Chosen as a Book of the Year by New Statesman, Financial Times, Guardian, Observer, Rough Trade and the BBC Shortlisted for the Rathbones Folio Prize Longlisted for the Jhalak Prize 'Restlessly inventive, brutally graceful, startlingly beautiful ... a landmark debut' Guardian 'Oh my God, he's just stirring me. Destroying me' Michaela Coel 'A poet of truth and rage, heartbreak and joy' Max Porter 'Takes us into new literary territory ... impressive' Bernardine Evaristo, New Statesman (Books of the Year) 'It's simply stunning. Every image is a revelation' Terrance Hayes What is it like to grow up in a place where the same police officer who told your primary school class they were special stops and searches you at 13 because 'you fit the description of a man' - and where it is possible to walk two and a half miles through an estate of 1,444 homes without ever touching the ground? In *Poor*, Caleb Femi combines poetry and original photography to explore the trials, tribulations, dreams and joys of young Black boys in twenty-first century Peckham. He contemplates the ways in which they are informed by the built environment of concrete walls and gentrifying neighbourhoods that form their stage, writes a coded, near-mythical history of the personalities and sagas of his South London youth, and pays tribute to the rappers and artists who spoke to their lives. Above all, this is a tribute to the world that shaped a poet, and to the people forging difficult lives and finding magic within it. As Femi writes in one of the final poems of this book: 'I have never loved anything the way I love the endz.'

baseball concrete poems: 101 Sports Poems Vol 3 Golf Tennis Bowling Sky Diver Equestrian ,

baseball concrete poems: How to Draw a Dragon Douglas Florian, 2015-04-14 Pull out your pencils! Everyone's an artist in this lively and inspiring picture book full of wit, whimsy, and wacky imagination...and dragons, of course! Dragons of all shapes and sizes are on display in this high-flying how-to picture book from celebrated author-illustrator Douglas Florian. Get ready to meet dragons who love singing, cycling, playing musical instruments, and more—and learn to draw each one along the way. Then at the end there's a big surprise: a dragon-drawing art show for all!

baseball concrete poems: An American Childhood Annie Dillard, 2009-10-13 An American Childhood more than takes the reader's breath away. It consumes you as you consume it, so that, when you have put down this book, you're a different person, one who has virtually experienced another childhood. — Chicago Tribune A book that instantly captured the hearts of readers across the country, *An American Childhood* is Pulitzer Prize-winning author Annie Dillard's poignant, vivid memoir of growing up in Pittsburgh in the 1950s and 60s. Dedicated to her parents—from whom she learned a love of language and the importance of following your deepest passions—Dillard's brilliant memoir will resonate with anyone who has ever recalled with longing playing baseball on an endless summer afternoon, caring for a pristine rock collection, or knowing in your heart that a book was written just for you.

baseball concrete poems: Bow-Tie Pasta Brian P. Cleary, 2015-11-01 Acrostic? What kind of stick is that? Actually, it's a poem! Acrostic poems are created from a word or phrase written vertically down the page. Each letter becomes part of a line in the poem, revealing a thought or a clue about the poem's topic. Award-winning author Brian P. Cleary shows how even the wackiest words can make an acrostic poem. *Bow-Tie Pasta* is packed with acrostics to make you snicker and snort. And when you've finished reading, you can try your hand at writing your own poems!

baseball concrete poems: Everything is a Poem: The Best of J. Patrick Lewis J. Patrick Lewis, 2014-08-19 J. Patrick Lewis did not come under poetry's spell until late in life—but when it struck, the former college economics professor was entranced. This collection celebrates some of his best poems for children—some silly, some serious, some historical, some invention, but all aimed to delight. The vibrant and playful illustrations of Italian artist Maria Cristina Pritelli lend a sense of vitality to the words, underscoring the idea that Everything Is a Poem.

baseball concrete poems: I'm Just No Good at Rhyming Chris Harris, 2017-09-26 The instant New York Times bestseller featured on NPR's Weekend Edition with Scott Simon! B. J. Novak (bestselling author of *The Book With No Pictures*) described this groundbreaking poetry collection

as Smart and sweet, wild and wicked, brilliantly funny--it's everything a book for kids should be. Lauded by critics as a worthy heir to such greats as Silverstein, Seuss, Nash and Lear, Harris's hilarious debut molds wit and wordplay, nonsense and oxymoron, and visual and verbal sleight-of-hand in masterful ways that make you look at the world in a whole new wonderfully upside-down way. With enthusiastic endorsements from bestselling luminaries such as Lemony Snicket, Judith Viorst, Andrea Beaty, and many others, this entirely unique collection offers a surprise around every corner. Adding to the fun: Lane Smith, bestselling creator of beloved hits like *It's a Book* and *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*, has spectacularly illustrated this extraordinary collection with nearly one hundred pieces of appropriately absurd art. It's a mischievous match made in heaven! Ridiculous, nonsensical, peculiar, outrageous, possibly deranged--and utterly, totally, absolutely delicious. Read it! Immediately! --Judith Viorst, bestselling author of *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*

baseball concrete poems: Splish Splash Joan Bransfield Graham, 2001-03-26 As fresh and sparkling as a mountain stream, *Splish Splash* invites young readers to plunge into the pleasures of concrete poetry, to have fun with words and ideas, and to see and appreciate the shapes of language and of everyday things. 71 Top Books of the Century (Nonfiction), Instructor magazine A School Library Journal Best Book of the Year A National Council of Teachers of English Notable Children's Book in the Language Arts A Children's Book of the Year, Child Study Children's Book Committee at Bank Street College New York Public Library 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing Great Stone Face Book Award Nominee, New Hampshire A Kansas State Reading Circle Selection Children's Books Mean Business, ABA-CBC Exhibit California Collection '97, '98, '99, and 2000

baseball concrete poems: Poetry in Literature for Youth Angela Leeper, 2006-03-28 *Poetry in Literature for Youth* offers teachers, librarians, parents, and students with an instrumental guide for incorporating all forms of poetry into the curriculum. More than 900 annotated entries provide descriptions of books and other resources, including anthologies, classics, various poetry formats, poetry novels, multicultural poetry, performance poetry, teen poetry, poet biographies, and curriculum connections. Educators, who are often unaware of the poetry resources available-particularly for young adults-will welcome this book with open arms. Lists for building a core poetry collection, along with resources for teaching poetry criticism and writing, electronic poetry resources, booktalks, classroom activities, and lesson plans complement this guide. Author, Geographic, Grade, Subject, and Title indexes are also included. For anyone interested in knowing more about poetry in literature, this is an indispensable guide.

baseball concrete poems: A Thousand Doors Matt Pasca, 2011 Poet Matt Pasca explores how personal suffering can be transformed into grace, as if through alchemy, when that grief can be shared with others. Using the Buddhist Mustard Seed parable as scaffolding, Pasca's work pays homage to Kisa Gotami's quest to save her son by finding a home where, impossibly, no suffering has befallen the inhabitants. Pasca's poems maneuver deftly between the seemingly simple and mundane details of the world around us and the sublime world we often miss in the myopia of our pain. Just as Gotami comes to see her grief reflected in the eyes behind the doors upon which she desperately knocks, we too find our own sorrows and pleasures illumined by the light of Pasca's unflinching exploration and delicate crafting. In the end, *A Thousand Doors* testifies to the necessity of sharing our stories with courage and vulnerability, and how doing so can lead us further down the path of joy.

baseball concrete poems: *The Year I Was Grounded* William H. New, 2008 A delightful year of discoveries.

baseball concrete poems: *Home* Whitney Hanson, 2021-11-12

baseball concrete poems: *Throwing the Crown* Jacob Saenz, 2018-09-18 Saenz's debut collection honestly examines the vulnerability of growing up in a neighborhood punctured by gang culture and hyper-masculinity.

baseball concrete poems: *Scenes of Life at the Capital* Philip Whalen, 2020 A reprint of the 1971 Grey Fox edition of *Scenes of Life at the Capital* by Philip Whalen with an afterword by David

Brazil--

baseball concrete poems: *Sappho and the Greek Lyric Poets* , 1988 Willis Barnstone has augmented his widely used anthology of the Greek lyric poets with eleven newly attributed Sappho poems, making this the most complete offering of Sappho in English. Two new sections -- Sources and Notes and Sappho: Her Life and Poems -- provide the student with the classical sources and an appraisal of this greatest of Western women poets. Barnstone's lucid, elegant translations include a representative sampling of all the significant Greek lyric poets, from Archilochus, in the seventh century B.C., through Pindar (prince of choral poets) and the other great singers of the classical age, down to the Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine periods. William McCulloh's introduction illuminates the forms and development of the Greek lyric. Barnstone introduces each poet with a brief biographical and literary sketch. The critical apparatus includes a glossary, index, bibliography, and concordance. Willis Barnstone is professor of Spanish and comparative literature at Indiana University. He is co-editor of *A Book of Women Poets from Antiquity to Now*, and has translated poetry of Mao Zedong, Antonio Machado, and St. John of the Cross.

baseball concrete poems: Mentor Texts Lynne R. Dorfman, Rose Cappelli, 2007 Shows teachers how to help students become confident, accomplished writers, using literature as their foundation. The book is organised around the characteristics of good writing: focus, content, organisation, style, and conventions.

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