What are Bio Poems?
A bio poem is a simple poem written about a person, and it follows a predictable pattern. Bio poems generally don’t rhyme, and they can be autobiographical or biographical. Begin by having your students write bio poems about themselves, and later they can write about other people or characters. In this packet you’ll find two ready-to-use graphic organizers, a sample poem, a planning page, and decorative writing paper.

Bio Poem Topic Ideas
- Back to School - Write and share autobiographical poems
- Holiday-Themed - Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, President’s Day
- Book or Movie Characters
- Historical Figures - Scientists, Inventors, Explorers, Politicians

Suggested Lesson Sequence
1. Before the lesson, write your own bio poem following the example on the next page. You’ll need this to share with your students when you start the lesson.
2. Begin by telling your students that they are going to create simple poems about themselves called “bio poems.” Display and read your example to the class.
3. Distribute copies of the brainstorming boxes graphic organizer on page 4. As a class, brainstorm a list of positive character traits that could be written in the first box. Then ask your students to record ideas for each topic in the other 7 boxes.
4. After students have spent 10 to 15 minutes brainstorming ideas on their own, encourage them to pair up with a partner and discuss their ideas.
5. Next display your example again and show students how to use the ideas from the brainstorming boxes graphic organizer to create a bio poem. Younger students may need the planning page template (page 6), but older students can usually do this on lined paper if you display the template in front of the class. Let them arrange the lines in any order they wish.
6. After students write a draft on the Bio Poem Planning Page, ask them to confer with a partner and check each other’s work for spelling or grammatical errors. Ask them to copy their final poems onto the decorative paper on page 7. Or they could type their poems and print them, or simply copy them onto plain paper.

7. Provide time for students to share their poems. You might also want to create a class book of their work or display them on a bulletin board.

Wordles Extension Activity

To integrate technology, have students create “Wordles” of their poems. To do this, students type their poems into the “create” page on Wordle.net at www.wordle.net/create. They can manipulate the size of the words by repeating the important words more than once; the more they repeat a word, the larger it will be in the final Wordle. If you have never created a Wordle yourself, experiment with the techniques yourself first.

Note: please be aware that the public Wordle gallery at www.wordle.net may have inappropriate Wordles, so don’t allow your students to search the site.

Buddy Bio Poems

If you like this lesson, you’ll LOVE Buddy Bio Poems, a fun poetry-writing activity for partners. The lesson begins with each student interviewing a partner to gather facts and information about his or her classmate. Next, each student composes a short bio poem using information learned during the partner interview. This activity can be used as a back-to-school icebreaker, as a fun writing activity before a holiday, or as an introductory lesson for a poetry unit. Click the image on the right to find it in my TpT store!

Looking for More Poetry Resources and Freebies?

To find more poetry resources and lessons, visit my Poetry Teaching Resources page on Teaching Resources. It’s loaded with free poetry resources as well as products that will save you time! Click this link to find it —>> www.lauracandler.com/files/literacy/poetry/
Sample Bio Poem

Laura
Dedicated, creative, caring
Lover of black cats, great books, and warm chocolate chip cookies
Who wonders if there is life on other planets
Who fears that we may be destroying our own planet
Who feels happy and peaceful when she’s kayaking the Lumber River
Who cares about rain forest animals and plants losing their homes
Who dreams of hiking up beautiful mountains in far away places!
## Bio Poem Brainstorming Boxes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjectives that Describe Person</th>
<th>Who enjoys . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who feels . . .</td>
<td>Who wonders . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who fears . .</td>
<td>Who cares about . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is able to . .</td>
<td>Who dreams . .</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name ____________________________
Bio Poem Planning Page

First Name ____________________

3 Words That Describe You ____________________________________________

Who enjoys _________________________________________________________

Who is able to ______________________________________________________

Who feels __________________________________________________________

Who wonders _______________________________________________________

Who fears __________________________________________________________

Who cares about __________________________________________________

Who dreams of ____________________________________________________
Wordle Poem Example

Dedicated, caring, creative, Laura
Life, far, lands, may, like, dreams
hike, cookies, cats, chip, destroying
feels, warm, joy, year, peaceful
travel, reading, Lover, mountains
happy, destroying, planets, Lumber
students, River, book, planet, fears
creative, black, wonders, discover

Created by Francie Kugelman at Wordle.net
**Bio Poem Brainstorming Boxes**

Name ______________________

Historical Figure _______________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjectives that Describe Person</th>
<th>Lover of . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who wondered . . .</td>
<td>Who dreamed of . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who learned . .</td>
<td>Who discovered . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who made a difference by . .</td>
<td>Who is remembered for . . .</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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