

A Poetry Garden

Tony Mitton's poem, "Instructions for Growing Poetry," is about opening your mind and finding the elements of a poem. You can grow a poem yourself using the same ideas. The key to this kind of poem is observation, looking very closely at your subject: its colors, its shape, its smells, its motions, and finding wonderful words and phrases to describe each part.

Directions: Find an interesting subject that you can observe closely or imagine one.

On each of the leaves below, write down words or phrases for each kind of observation.

Use these words and phrases to grow your own observation poem. You might want to have a thesaurus handy.

**COLOR &
SHAPE**

SOUND

MOVEMENT

EMOTION

(Hint: how does it
make you feel?)

Critical Thinking

On a separate sheet of paper, use your notes above and your observation skills to write a poem.