Shape (Or Concrete) Poems

Shape poetry is the art of describing a shape through words and the placement of the words to create that shape. These poems are also called pattern poems or concrete poems. Shape poems can be written about anything, just as long as it is the shape of the subject you are writing about. For example, you can have a poem about pancakes in the shape of a circle or a poem about love in the shape of a heart. The poem does not have to rhyme.

Put It To Use:
Let us write a shape poem about rain in the shape of a raindrop.

Step 1:
Draw an outline of a raindrop.

Step 2: Think It Through
Brainstorm at least ten words or phrases that describe rain and your feelings towards rain.

Brainstorms:
Wet, makes the grass muddy, can’t go outside to play, drip-drop sound, storm, need an umbrella, washes the car, makes me feel sad

Step 3: Write Your Poem
Write your poem inside of the raindrop you drew.

Drip.
Goes the
Rain drops
On my window.
Drop, drip, drip.
There are puddles
In the driveway and
The grass is muddy. I
I can’t play outside since
Everything is wet. The
Clouds are dark and
Roads are slippery.
I am sad. I miss
The sun.

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Try Your Hand at Shape Poetry

Now it is time for you to give it a shot.

**Challenge:**
Write a shape poem about ice cream in the shape of an ice cream scoop and cone.

**Step 1:**
Draw an outline of your ice cream scoop and ice cream cone. Make sure it is big enough because you will write your poem in this shape.

**Step 2: Brainstorm**
Write at least ten words or phrases about ice cream. Examples could be your favorite flavor, where you eat ice cream, or how it makes you feel.

**Step 3: Write Your Poem**
Write your poem inside of your ice cream drawing.

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