Concrete Poetry
A concrete poem is written to form a picture on the page, which matches the theme of the poem. The poem can be simple using interesting metaphors to create a powerful image in our mind as we read it.

Look at the size of the words and letters and, more importantly, the shape of the poem. What do you notice? The words are selected carefully and their size and presentation help to emphasise their importance.

Sometimes it is possible to read the poem in different ways. You might choose to read a concrete poem written in the form of a circle from different starting points.
We lived beneath the mantel, warm and snug and fed.
But one day, and that was the day,

To our joy the Dog, with its friendly eyes,
Was the Cat's away.

When the Cat's away, the Dog will play.

But sometimes, Brother, we're afraid!
a
sp
arkle
way up
high one
to make all
your wishes upon
high in the nighttime sky blinking like a broken
traffic light shining above us like a canopy
with holes punched in it growing bright
each night we look up at them
in amazement they hold our
hopes and dreams their twinkle assures us that very
ting will be alright
Concrete Poetry

1. Think of an objects that have distinct shapes. Choose one.

2. Think of words you can say about this object.
   What specific qualities does it have?

3. What are some things that can be done with it or that it does?

4. In your notes, circle the words and ideas you like the best.

5. Lightly draw the shape of your object in pencil. Then write the words around the shape to create your rough draft.

6. Think about these questions and then begin your final draft.
   - Will I hand write or type the final draft?
   - What color and shape will the letters be?
   - Should I leave a lot of 'white space' around the shape?
Example Poem

1. wave, surfboard, guitar, star, galaxy, comet, iPod

2. power, rushing, splash, glistening, sandy shores, sharks, foamy white beards, crash, roar, hurrying back out to sea, giving presents of shells, foamy white beards,

3. surfing, swimming, dangerous, tsunami,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Construction</strong></td>
<td>The arrangement of pictures and words fill the image but it does not seem as if the image offers any meaning visually</td>
<td>The arrangement of pictures and words fill the image but it does not seem as if the image offers much meaning visually</td>
<td>The arrangement of pictures and words attempts to give the image visual meaning</td>
<td>The arrangement of pictures and words clearly fill an image that offers meaning visually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language</strong></td>
<td>Uses no poetic devices (simile, metaphor, alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia)</td>
<td>Uses few poetic devices (simile, metaphor, alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia)</td>
<td>Uses poetic devices appropriately (simile, metaphor, alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia)</td>
<td>Uses poetic devices in an creative and inventive manner (simile, metaphor, alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cohesion</strong></td>
<td>There is no identifiable topic.</td>
<td>Some of the writing and image relates to one topic.</td>
<td>Most of the writing and image relates to one topic.</td>
<td>All of the writing and image relates to one topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effort~</strong></td>
<td>The poem is not finished.</td>
<td>The poem is finished, but it looks as if very little time and effort was put into finishing the poems.</td>
<td>It appears as if the author has put some time and effort into finishing the poem.</td>
<td>It looks as if the author has clearly put time and effort into finishing the poem.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Attachments

Concrete Poem Rubric.docx