

Expressing Identity through Poetry



Recently at King Traditional, a Grade 4 class engaged in a powerful learning experience that brought together creativity, self-expression, and community connection. Through a poetry project centered on identity, students explored who they are as individuals and as members of a diverse classroom and broader community.

The heart of the project was the creation of “I Am” poems, a reflective format that encouraged students to express their thoughts, feelings, hopes, and cultural backgrounds. Using a structured template, students began by drafting their poems on paper and then brought them to life using the Book Creator app. Each poem was enhanced with personalized visuals and voice recordings, allowing students to share their work in both English and, where chosen, a second language spoken at home. Languages such as Punjabi, Hindi, Spanish, and Filipino were featured, celebrating the rich linguistic and cultural diversity within the classroom.

This project directly supports our district’s human and social development goal. Students developed personal and social skills while engaging in classroom work that helped them reflect upon and better understand themselves and others. By reflecting on who they are and some of the things that make them special, and sharing their stories, students practiced empathy, self-awareness, and pride in their heritage. They also strengthened their sense of belonging and connection, which are essential components of social development.

The culminating moment came on May 15 when students visited The Reach Gallery Museum to see their work displayed alongside other SD34 student projects. Presented on kiosks and museum iPads, their poems became part of a public exhibition that gave students a meaningful opportunity to be seen and heard beyond the classroom. The experience was transformative. Students felt empowered, proud, and deeply connected to their community.

We are grateful to The Reach Gallery Museum and our broader community for supporting this initiative. Through this project, our students not only learned about poetry, but discovered how it can be a powerful tool for helping them express a little bit about who they are and what they find important.

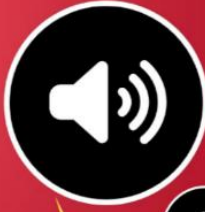
Samples:



I am a kind person who can win rewards.
 I wonder when violence will be stopped.
 I hear people having a great time.
 I want all the people in the world to be happy.
 I am a kind person who can win rewards.

I wish that world hunger is solved.
 I pretend that war was stopped.
 I feel the world should come together.
 I worry that an airplane crash would happen.
 I smile when someone does a good deed.
 I am a kind person who can win rewards.

I say jokes to people.
 I dream that everything bad in the world would go away.
 I try to help the Earth.
 I hope people would change their bad ways.
 I am Sehajdeep S.


By: Sehajdeep S.



I am a creative problem solver
 I wonder why there is only one universe full of galaxies
 I hear leaves falling and kids whispering
 I want to be happy and fortunate when I grow up
 I am a creative problem solver

I wish to become a very talented singer
 I pretend all my doubters do not exist
 I feel peace and sometimes anxiety in my life
 I worry that there will be a World War III
 I smile when I see the beautiful sunlight
 I am a very creative problem solver

I say to control your anger as it is one letter away from Danger
 I dream I could fly in the sky surrounded by sweets
 I try to be a good sport no matter what
 I hope everyone has peace in their life
 I am Simar S.




By: Simar S.