



**Activity:** Acrostic Poem

**Materials:** paper and writing utensil (or, if the students are back in their classrooms for this activity, send the template at the end of this lesson to the teacher to print for the kiddos to use!)

**Grade Range:** 3-5

**Time:** 25 minutes

\*\* Consider using the hand raise/thumbs up feature of your virtual platform to assist with determining who will share out \*\*

**Synopsis:** Students will write an acrostic poem using their name and, when complete, will share with the class. This activity allows students to engage in the writing process, learn and recognize a type of poetry, and extend their critical thinking skills. It also allows them to think about the traits of themselves that they feel are most positive.

**Instructions:**

1. Share with the students that they will be creating an acrostic poem. Explain the definition to them: a poem in which certain letters in each line spell out a word or phrase. In this case, the students will be thinking of adjectives that best describe the traits they like best in themselves or the things that they like to do.
2. Provide an example to the students using your name. Example: Kate
  - K**- ind
  - A**- ctive
  - T**- eacher
  - E**- mpathetic
3. After sharing the example, ask the students if they have any questions/need any clarification on what to do. If they are good to go, move forward with giving them about 10 minutes to work. (Consider playing some classical 'thinking' music at this time!)
4. It may be a good idea to write some common positive traits in the chat feature using a variety of letters – A for Amazing, B for Beautiful or Bold or Brainy, C for Cool or Colorful, etc.
5. Check in on students after about 5 minutes to see if they need more time/help
6. When everyone has completed, go ahead and ask for volunteers to share. (Mentors, be sure that you share, too!)

**Pen Pal Prompt:** What words did you use to describe yourself in your poem? Tell me why these words have special meaning to you and your life.



**ACROSTIC NAME POEM:** Using each letter of your first name, describe yourself with adjectives. See the example below. If you cannot come up with an adjective, feel free to use phrases. If you are daring, include your last name as well.

**K**ind

**A**dventurous

**Y**appy

**L**oving

**A**mazing

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick orange border, intended for students to write their acrostic poems. The box is positioned to the right of the example words.