



OUR THANKSGIVING TURKEY

This poem can be written about any food for any occasion and is not limited to Thanksgiving.

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standard: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.1.E, L.2.1.D and L.5.1.C

Now for the steps!

1. Show your students the ABC template.
2. Tell them that they're going to write an ABC poem about a specific Thanksgiving food.
3. Give them time to rattle off their favorites!
4. Now, explain to them that in this ABC poem, each letter of the alphabet is a little person. Each letter is going to *do* something to the Thanksgiving food. The action has to begin with that letter. For example, the easiest way to start is to write *A ate it. B bit it. Etc.*
5. Stop and make sure the students understand step #4.
6. Tell the students that the letters can do *ANY VERB* to the food. (i.e. Bought it, Broke it, Begged for it etc.)

Now to write!

1. Leave the top line blank. Explain to the children that they're going to title their poem "OUR _____". The name of their food will go in the blank. Some examples are, *OUR THANKSGIVING TURKEY, OUR MASHED POTATOES, OUR SWEET POTATO PIE* etc. They can write the title with ABC stickers or markers once their done with the poem.
2. Remind the children that each letter is a little person. Each letter is the subject or noun in the short sentence. Make sure they leave a space between the letter and the actual verb like this:

A ate it.
B bit it.
3. For younger writers, talk about the verb ideas with them and write an example for them on the board. They can copy the sample or write independently.
4. For older writers, let them fill out the ABC poem independently.
5. Once a student is done writing he/she can complete the title with ABC stickers or markers.
6. The students can also draw their food somewhere on their poem or paste an image of it.
7. Be sure and give your students time to share their poems. They will enjoy making their classmates laugh!