



Castlemaine
Fringe



Poetry as Stimulus

Aim: This resource provides an activity for teachers and students to explore the 2023 Fringe Art Trail theme of Thrive.

1. Read through the poem “I will Soar” by Annette Hershey on the next page.
2. In the poem the author writes about a bird soaring to great heights and thriving. Imagine if you were this bird flying high – what would this feel like? Create a brainstorm with your class that collects and explores student's ideas and feelings.
3. As a class explore the website of Australian artist **Jade Oakley** who creates mobiles with wire, feathers and paper and is inspired by the environment. In particular look at and discuss the qualities of “**Mangrove**” and “**Wattle**.” You may choose to print out some images and use the 'Art Critique' worksheet below.
4. Taking inspiration from Annette’s poem and Jade Oakley’s mobile work plan to create a soaring mobile that explores student's feelings and ideas about thriving. You could use the planning worksheet below. You might:

Ask students to create symbols that encapsulate their feelings of soaring onto a small surface you have available or can find. This could be paper, cardboard, acetate, leaves, bark, then build these small works into a mobile.

Take the idea of birds and flight and guide students to create small 2D or 3D representations of birds into a mobile.





I will Soar!

By Annette
Hershey

If I were a birdie,
I'd head up to the sky.
I'd spread my wings like sunshine.
I know I could fly mighty high!

If I were a birdie,
My feathers would be bright.
Every color would be striking.
I'd soar and reach new heights.

If I were a birdie,
I'd sing a lovely song.
Everyone would stop and listen;
They would begin to sing along.

If I were a birdie,
I'd follow all my dreams.
Small streams to vast oceans,
Under golden bright sunbeams.

If I were a birdie,
I'd flit about from tree to tree
With many different flocks of birdies.
We would be free to be free.

If I were a birdie,
I'd head up to the sky.
I'd spread my wings like sunshine.
I know I could fly mighty high!

ART CRITIQUE

In the box, paste your favorite artwork from the ones we've discussed in class.



Look at the artwork carefully then answer the following questions in 1-3 complete sentences.

What are the things you see in the artwork?
What kinds of lines, shapes, or colors get your attention?

If you could change the artwork's title, what would you pick? Why?

What do you think the artwork is about?

How does the artwork make you feel?

Name: _____

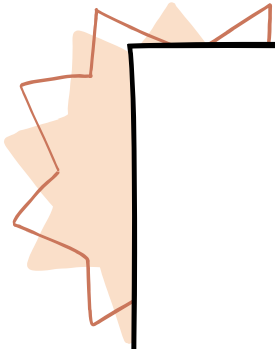
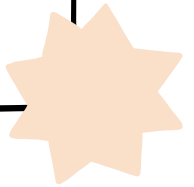
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NAME: _____

DATE: _____

PLANNING A SCULPTURE

Create a plan for a sculpture by drawing it in 4 different angles on our worksheet below.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing a sculpture from four different angles.

Tell us a little bit about your sculpture.

What theme were you trying to convey?
