

OSBORNE SCHOOL
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My residency was with the students at Osborne School. They explored the use of descriptive language and the importance of “just the right word” while writing a variety of poems. Their poetic thoughts ranged from family to food to feelings. As they gained confidence in their ability to communicate they went deeper into their emotions, painting pictures with their words that spoke of where they were from and what made them who they are today. One of my biggest challenges was helping them realize there was no right or wrong way to write a poem. Once they grasped that concept, their poetry became more connected to their lives, more real. It was inspiring to watch them, one by one, begin to realize the power that came with writing. The power not just to tell stories, but to heal a hurting heart, to laugh, to celebrate, and to help them cope with the uncertainty in their lives. Poetry is a universal language that can connect us all.