

## Concrete Poems

*royal autumn  
glows and gleams  
polished in jewelled  
hawthorn acorn rosehip  
food fruited seeded stored  
season's scattering gathering  
leaves bleached crisp scuffed  
whipped trees squeezed daylight  
will you treasure me or let me go  
am I valued prized lost discarded  
winter leers  
in loneliness  
love is holed  
an empty gall  
bitter as a sloe  
dreams once  
berry bright  
beguile like  
nightshade  
taunt haunt  
promise lies  
will passion  
die unmarked  
or blaze again scarlet russet gold brown  
lifeblood of love*

*Margaret*

A concrete poem (also known as an eye poem) takes the act of observation and expresses it verbally and visually. Perhaps it's a good example of a cross arts poem! This can be done precisely as in the example above, or suggestively, as in the extracts below from a poem about a tidal mooring in an estuary:

*no lift is asked for  
ancient timbers  
slump gracefully  
  
the seven  
hours  
of ebb  
slouch by  
no threat  
no call to action*

*Joan*

The concrete poems created by the school groups often started with drawing - with the shape they had observed. They often included a strong element of play. The absence of normal line or word order seemed to give them licence to do just that - to play, to experiment with words and patterns.

# estuary

Kings Manor Farm  
through the seasons

a combined arts  
project 2011-2012

**Guidelines:**

- Start with your preferred art form.
- Quickly note down your thoughts before you think about the shape your words will take.
- Or, start with a sketch and then play with the words that the image suggests to you. You may also want to introduce colour..

**Materials**

Plain paper

Black fine liner pens or preferred writing materials

Pastels, paints

Lydia Fulleylove