

# poetic YOUTH

## Lesson 1: Stanzas

**Learning Objectives:** Gain trust and learn one another's interests in regards to poetry. Establish community guidelines. Have fun!

**Supplies:** Pens, colored pencils, paper. Several copies of a poem with about 5 stanzas (a villanelle might work well here), cut up via stanzas.

**Writing Exercise:** Give students the cut-out stanzas to the poem. Organize the students into groups and have each group reorder the stanzas to create their own poem. Afterwards, let one representative from each group tell us what their new order is. Then, the facilitator will read aloud the original. Which version of the poem do they like better? Why? Explain what stanzas are and why they are important.

Length: 15 minutes