

MEMORIAL DAY POETRY WITH BUDDY BISON



Every year on Memorial Day, people nationwide take time to remember individuals who have fought to protect our country.

To honor military service members we have lost, many people visit National Park Service sites to show their respect. Examples of these special places include the World War II Memorial on the National Mall in Washington D.C., the Pearl Harbor National Memorial in Hawai'i, and American Memorial Park in the U.S. territory of Northern Mariana Islands.

To celebrate Memorial Day this year, try your hand at writing some patriotic poetry with Buddy Bison!

First take a look at the following example of a Shape Poem:

```
      A
    TALL
  LONELY
OAK TREE
WINDS HOWL
LEAVES SHAKE
ACORNS CLATTER
      D
      O
      W
      N
TO THE DRY GROUND
```

The example poem above is called a **Shape Poem** because the words of the poem are used to create the shape of a tree, the topic of the poem itself.

Using the outline of the United States on the following page as a guide, write your own **Shape Poem** about America.



HELPFUL TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR POEM

Write about what you love about the U.S. Consider things like what makes your state unique, your neighborhood's diversity, or rights that you are glad you have.

- Try to use lots of creative adjectives (describing words). Think of your 5 senses: sight, sound, taste, touch, and smell.
- When creating the shape of your poem, don't forget to include Alaska and Hawai'i.
- Decide if you want to fill your picture in with words or use them around the outline.

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