

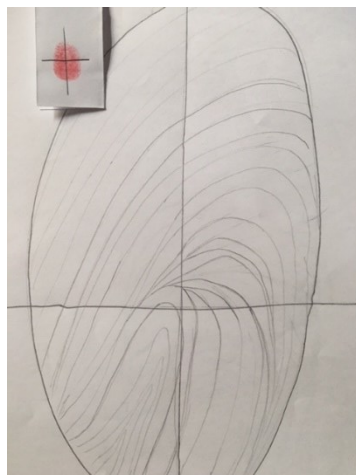
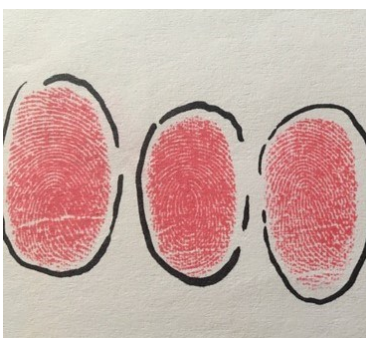
Make with the MERL – Fingerprint Poetry

A print & a poem as unique as you are... all you need is an ink pad, pencil, paper & you!

Born in Berkshire in 1833, William John Herschel is credited with being the first to note the value of fingerprints for identification. He recognized that fingerprints are unique and documented his own prints over his lifetime to prove permanence. He is also credited with being the first to use fingerprints in a practical manner, on contracts.



1. Place your fingertip on the ink pad and roll side-to-side on paper to make your fingerprint – it's a good idea to do it a few times (and maybe with a few fingers) to get the clearest outline of your fingerprint.
2. Divide your print into quarters so you can scale each quarter up onto A4 or A3 as a rough version, making observational drawing marks where there are clear lines, loops and whorls.
3. With paper on top & letting the light shine through, trace over your rough version to make a 'best' copy.
4. Create a poem about you – try a few of the ideas below.
5. Transcribe your poem onto the 'best' print and highlight key words as you go!



I Remember

What is this poem about? It is about you, what is special to you, and about memory itself - if you remember it, then it must have been important to you...

Your full and individual poem will be about a dozen memories on each line of the piece.

Some might be a few words; some might be more than one sentence.

You might choose to get involved in just one story or write about things that don't connect – apart from to you.

Try and concentrate and share specific details – senses - smell, sounds, sight, touch, taste – and on locations.

Consider the things you want to write about:

I remember . . . a person (friend, family, fictional) / a detail about a person /a specific place (like a hiding place or a corner of a tree house) / an event / an inanimate object / the quality of air, weather or light that day...

The memories should be about different times in your lives – you could include:

- a line about something from the last 24 hours
- a line about the earliest memory you have
- Every other line (at least 5) about different things in between...

Place Poem

Create poetry based on a place that stands out in your mind. It can be a childhood place, a current place, a place in your home, a place that you visit, a place that you once visited, a holiday place, or an imaginary place. You decide...

Once you've decided on a place, think about your place. Make a list of the sights, sounds, tastes, touches, and smells associated with your place. Here are ten lines you can

1. What is your favourite place?
2. Where is it?
3. Why is it your favourite place?
4. What is your favourite time of day/night there?
5. What sounds do you hear there?
6. What things do you see there?
7. What do you taste/smell there?
8. What things do you most enjoy doing there?
9. When will you go to your favourite place again?
10. How will you feel then?

Acrostic Me

Use your name to spell out an acrostic poem that says something about you:

My family =

Ewe and

Ram and

Lamb

