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Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems

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Book Review

Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems

In Bob Raczka’s compilation of concrete poems, or ‘shape poems,’ Bob combines words about science, seasons, stars, and clothes hangers in a delightfully creative way. In the titles of the poems, the author creates pictures with letters, and in the poems themselves, he creates pictures with words. Some poems rhyme and some don’t. Even the table of contents is in the shape of a table. Readers are left with a message at the end to just try poetry!

It might take readers a minute to figure out how each concrete poem should be read, but once they do, the message is exponentially understood because of the way it is portrayed. Readers will enjoy the humor involved in many of the poems, like when the poet writes of clothes hangers hanging out with no clothes on at all! There are words written backwards and words that don’t even fit on the page, all on purpose. This book will encourage many readers to write a concrete poem or two for themselves!

Author
Bob Raczka

Illustrator
Kristie Hinckley

Rating
Outstanding

Level
Primary, Intermediate

Pages
43

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