

Creativity Prompt

Beautiful Oops: Text Your Loved Ones Edition

Description

Co-write a poem with your friends and family.

Goal

To provide an activity that allows for free expression and creativity focusing on engagement with others to help build connection while having fun.

Time to Complete

Minimum 5 minutes, up to 30

Number of Participants

2 to 5

Materials

A way to contact people (in person or virtually)

Instructions

Without instruction Text/Email/Call/DM/Tweet/Write/Fax five friends asking them to send you one of the following words: Adjective, Noun, Verb, Adjective, or Noun

If you're doing this with just one other person, go back and forth with each supplying a word in order.

While you're waiting for them to respond, ponder this quote by the French poet who made up this game with his friends in 1925 and ask yourself what it means to you:

“When the conversation—on the day's events or proposals of amusing or scandalous intervention in the life of the times—began to pall, we would turn to games; written games at first, contrived so that elements of language attacked each other in the most paradoxical manner possible, and so that human communication, misled from the start, was thrown into the mood most amenable to adventure. From then on no unfavorable prejudice (in fact, quite the contrary) was shown against childhood games, for which we were rediscovering the old enthusiasm, although considerably amplified.”

-André Breton

Once you have five words, put them together in this order: Adjective, Noun, Verb, Adjective, or Noun to make a fantastically exquisite sentence. Feel free to change the tense of any word in order to make the sentence work but remember to lean into the nonsensical and be open to the creativity this brings!

Follow the steps above 3-5 more times to create more sentences, then string together all your new sentences to make a poem. You can order these sentences however you feel best suits your poem, but the words should stay with their sentence.

Share the poem with your friends!

Optional Add On

Add music to your poem. Sing, rap, and/or lyrically recite your poem (while you wash your hands)!

Sharing Suggestions

Share your poem with us in the comments on Facebook, or via a tagged Instagram story