

# Adult Learners

Activities for adult learners who are interested in poetry.



## Activity 1 - Imagination!

**Read the poem twice; the first time read it silently to yourself, the second time read it aloud. If you are reading the poem to someone younger than you, tell them to close their eyes and try to imagine what you are reading to them. Once you are done, consider the following questions:**

- What did you imagine while you were reading the poem?
- Do you think the sun actually kissed the ground? What did you imagine when you read that part of the poem?
- What do you think the poet meant when they said “young minds swing back and forth”? Has your mind ever swung back and forth? If so, about what?
- The poet writes, "young bodies hold the courage to sprout wings." What do you think your wings would look like? What would they give you the courage to do?
- The poet also writes that the playground is "the stomping ground of doubt." What do you think she means? If you could stomp out one doubt you carry, which one would it be? Can you picture yourself pulling it out of your pocket, and stomping it out on the playground?
- The poet writes "young soles stand on rocks / that are mountains and declare their greatness," when can a rock be a mountain? What makes a playground a field for dreams and courage? How can a park or a neighborhood lift a person up? Lift a community up? What can the city do to lift a person, a park, and a community up? What about the country? The world?

**Tip: Start at the end by the bike racks. This way you won't have to walk backwards as you read. Be careful though because some of the words are spelled backwards.**