

TARZAN

.....

Tan

Athletic

Resourceful

Zooms

Assertive

Nimble

EMMA

.....

Eager to learn

Makes time to read

Marvelous artist

Adores her white poodle

CAT

.....

Can't

Avoid

Trouble

TRASH

.....

Takes a

Really

Astounding

Stomach to

Handle this mess.

Name _____ Date _____

Personal Inventory

In the spaces below, write down information about yourself.

Likes/Dislikes

Dreams/Plans

Personality

Physical Characteristics

Material Treasures

Family and Family Life

Name _____ Date _____

Finding the Right Details

1 Look at the words and phrases you used to describe yourself and your interests on worksheet 1. Underline those you feel are most important. Are there any that reveal a side of you that other people might not know? List them in the space below. Such details are called “telling details,” meaning they tell or reveal something about someone or thing, and all good writing needs them.

© _____

© _____

© _____

© _____

© _____

© _____

2 As you look at your personal inventory sheet and the items you listed above, do you notice anything these things have in common? For example, some of the things you feel are important about you might be related to friends or family, your pet, sports, or school. You might want to use a theme to unify your poem. If you had to choose one word to describe yourself, what would it be? Write it here.

You don't have to use this word in your poem, but it may give you an idea for it.

3

Acrostic

Name _____ Date _____

Starting Your First Draft

1 Once you've selected your details, you are ready to start a first draft of your acrostic. Write the letters of your name down the dotted line at right. Then begin your acrostic, looking for a way to work the things you've listed in "Finding the Right Details" into the poem.

2 When you have finished your draft, write another draft on the same subject (in the space at right), but this time make it a different kind of acrostic. If the poem above is a list, make this one a statement or question about you. Take another look at the sample poems so you can see how these two kinds of acrostic poems work.

3 After you have drafted two versions of the acrostic poem, decide which one you prefer. Underline the parts in that poem you especially like. Try to rework your drafts into poems you like enough to read to your friends.