

# I AM POEM

An **I Am Poem** is a simple poem written about yourself, someone else, or something else (like a character in a book or an object in nature). An **I Am Poem** is a type of personal poem that can introduce students to poetry while encouraging self-reflection. It is also a great way to allow students to share a little bit about themselves at the beginning of the school year.

How to write your own **I Am Poem**:

1. Use the templates on the following page to brainstorm ideas for your **I Am Poem**. Fill in the blanks with statements that are true. The statements can be adjectives, feelings, or any other descriptive words. If you want, draw a small picture in the space beside each statement.
2. Select your favorite lines and/or drawings to include in your poem. An **I Am Poem** typically has 10 lines, but the length of your poem is up to you. Decide the order, number, and flow of your **I Am** statements - this is called editing. Write your finished poem on the right side of this piece of paper. Cut out your **I Am Poem** and glue it into your *Poetry Notebook*.
3. What else can you do with your poem?
  - Illustrate your poem.
  - Create your own book. Read *I Am Danny* for inspiration.
  - Create a classroom book with each student's **I Am Poem**.
  - Turn your poem into a **Who Am I?** or **What Am I?** guessing game. Have somebody else read your poem out loud, and instead of revealing the last line, change it to **Who Am I?** Let the listeners guess.
  - At the end of the school year, write a new **I Am Poem**. Compare the two poems to reflect on ways you've stayed the same and ways that you've changed.
  - Share your poem with us! Share your poem on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages at [@MaryRuthBooks](#) or by email to [admin@maryruthbooks.com](mailto:admin@maryruthbooks.com). We can't wait to see what you create!

How do I make my own *Poetry Notebook*?

You can make your own *Poetry Notebook* out of any lined or unlined notebook. We used one of **Danny's Journals** as a place to keep our poetry. Decorate the front cover to personalize your *Poetry Notebook*, then fill it with Danny's poems, your poetry practice, and your finished poetry throughout the year.

**I AM** \_\_\_\_\_

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**I AM** \_\_\_\_\_

I am \_\_\_\_\_.

I hear \_\_\_\_\_.

I see \_\_\_\_\_.

I want \_\_\_\_\_.

I feel \_\_\_\_\_.

I wonder \_\_\_\_\_.

I pretend \_\_\_\_\_.

I try \_\_\_\_\_.

I hope \_\_\_\_\_.

I like \_\_\_\_\_.

I understand \_\_\_\_\_.

I say \_\_\_\_\_.

I eat \_\_\_\_\_.

I love \_\_\_\_\_.

I dream \_\_\_\_\_.