**Summary Poem**

Summary poems help students with reading comprehension and allow a certain creative license. Each poem will reveal what each student finds most important about the book they have read. Students start by summarizing a book, then are asked to count how many words and sentences they have written. They are then asked to cut down on how many words they have written until they have about a 20-word summary. Once this is accomplished, students will combine their words into “phrases” which will then become stanzas.

***Example: Effie’s Image***

**Summary 1**

This picture book is about Effie, an 82-year-old woman, who wakes up and looks in the mirror and realizes she is no longer useful to the world because of her old age. Effie’s young neighbor Amanda makes it her job to help Effie find her place in the world again. After a few tries, Amanda helps Effie find purpose in her life by becoming a volunteer at her school.

Words: 71

Sentences: 3

**Summary 2**

Effie, an 82-year-old woman feels she is not useful to the world anymore. Her young neighbor Amanda wants to fix that. Amanda succeeds by finding a place for the woman at her school as a volunteer.

Words: 38

Sentences: 3

**Summary 3**

At 82, Effie feels useless. Amanda wants to fix that. She succeeds by having Effie volunteer at her elementary school.

Words: 20

Sentences: 3

**Parsing phrases into stanzas**

(At 82, Effie feels useless) (Amanda wants to fix that) (She succeeds) (by having Effie volunteer) (at her elementary school)

**Summary Poem**

At 82, Effie feels useless

Amanda wants to fix that

She succeeds

By having Effie volunteer

At her elementary school