

Social-Emotional Learning | "Where I'm From" by George Ella Lyon

I am from clothespins,
from Clorox and carbon-tetrachloride.
I am from the dirt under the back porch.
(Black, glistening,
it tasted like beets.)
I am from the forsythia bush
the Dutch elm
whose long-gone limbs I remember
as if they were my own.

I'm from fudge and eyeglasses,
from Imogene and Alafair.
I'm from the know-it-alls
and the pass-it-ons,
from Perk up! and Pipe down!
I'm from He restoreth my soul
with a cottonball lamb
and ten verses I can say myself.

I'm from Artemus and Billie's Branch,
fried corn and strong coffee.
From the finger my grandfather lost
to the auger,
the eye my father shut to keep his sight.

Under my bed was a dress box
spilling old pictures,
a sift of lost faces
to drift beneath my dreams.
I am from those moments—
snapped before I budded—
leaf-fall from the family tree.

Social-Emotional Learning | Poem Template

I am from _____ ,
(SPECIFIC ORDINARY ITEM)

from _____ *and* _____ .
(PRODUCT NAME) (PRODUCT NAME)

I am from the _____ .
(HOME DESCRIPTION)

(_____ , _____ ,
(ADJECTIVE) (ADJECTIVE)

(SENSORY DETAIL))

I am from _____ , _____ .
(PLANT, FLOWER, NATURAL ITEM) (DESCRIPTION OF ABOVE ITEM)

I'm from _____ . *and* _____ ,
(FAMILY TRADITION) (FAMILY TRAIT)

from _____ *and* _____ .
(NAME OF FAMILY MEMBER) (ANOTHER FAMILY NAME)

I'm from the _____ *and* _____ ,
(DESCRIPTION OF FAMILY TENDENCY) (ANOTHER ONE)

from _____ *and* _____ .
(SOMETHING YOU WERE TOLD AS A CHILD) (ANOTHER)

I'm from _____ *and* _____ .
(REPRESENTATION OF RELIGION OR LACK OF) (FURTHER DESCRIPTION)

I'm from _____ ,
(PLACE OF BIRTH AND FAMILY ANCESTRY)

_____ *and* _____ .
(A FOOD ITEM THAT REPRESENTS YOUR FAMILY) (ANOTHER ONE)

From the _____ ,
(SPECIFIC FAMILY STORY ABOUT A SPECIFIC PERSON AND DETAIL)

the _____ .
(ANOTHER DETAIL OF ANOTHER FAMILY MEMBER)

(LOCATION OF FAMILY PICTURES, MEMENTOS, ARCHIVES)

(LINE EXPLAINING THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY ITEMS)