



# BERNARD ZELL

## ANSHE EMET DAY SCHOOL

בית ספר אנשי אמת ע"ש ברנרד זל

Hello Lower School Families!

As adults, when you think of *poetry*, maybe Shel Silverstein or rhyming comes to mind. Or perhaps *poetry* sparks memories of your own learning about Haiku, Limerick or Acrostic poems. This year, some of our youngest writers did things a little differently as they took a deep dive into understanding life through a poet's keen eye.

Second graders now know that good poets use a special lens to look at ordinary things in extraordinary ways. They gain inspiration from watching carefully, listening closely and

noticing feelings. They craft poetic language using patterns, repetition, comparisons and rhythm. Good poets experiment with line breaks, sentence structure and comparative language. By studying mentor texts, students learned how to analyze from their poet's eye and develop a poem's mood to support its meaning. After all of this exploring and creating, they learned to revise their structure and mood to match their intention. Wow!



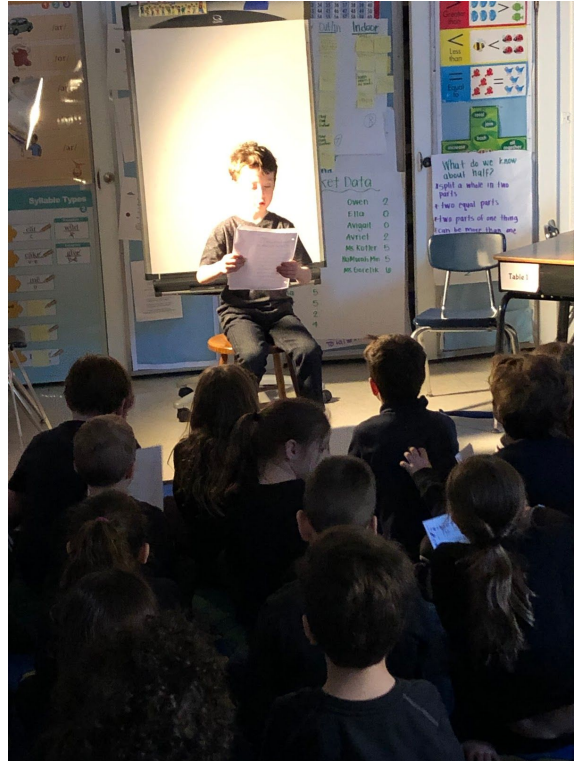
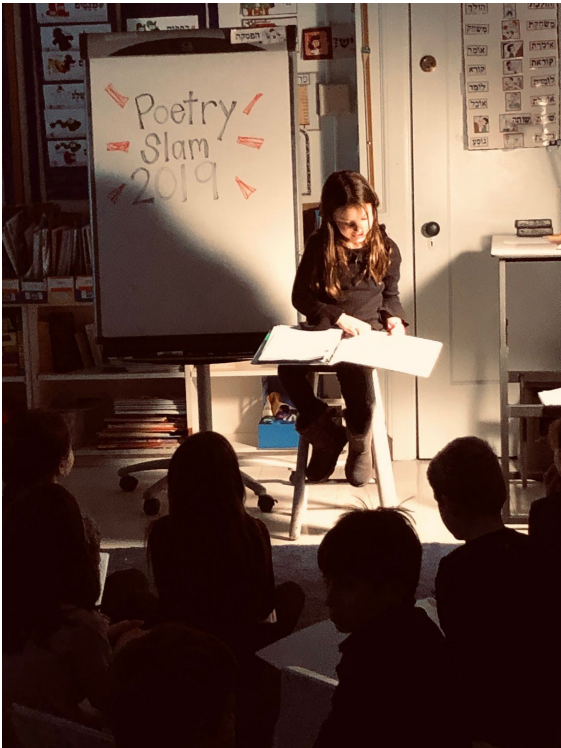
And we certainly couldn't have such a successful writing unit without adequate celebration! Cue the ***First Annual Second Grade Poetry Slam***! Learning about this special way to celebrate poetry was a true highlight! Students studied videos of poetry slams, practiced their presentation style and even donned the traditional all-black wardrobe. Standing

beneath the spotlight, young poets performed their work to an authentic audience of peers and teachers from across the school. A day to remember!

*When you had to be in front of everyone, you felt nervous. But actually, when you were in front of everyone, you got used to it, and it felt really good.*

*-Rafi, second-grade poet*

*It was really good to have time to see your friend's work too. It was a really cool experience. It was the first poetry slam I've ever had! -Abby, second-grade poet*



(Young poets presenting their work)

Shabbat Shalom!

Karen Leavitt  
Head of Lower School