

# T&W Blackboard

## ***Six-Word Memoir Ideas and Resources***

The online magazine *SMITH* ([www.smithmag.net](http://www.smithmag.net)) sparked an explosion of interest in six-word memoirs with their Six-Word Memoir Project and subsequent book, *Not Quite What I Was Planning: Six-Word Memoirs by Writers Famous & Obscure*. The site offers a variety of resources for teachers and students interested in the six-word memoir, including a links to contests, news, and events, as well as an archive of six-word memoirs in schools that features a “Classroom of the Week.”

An excellent discussion of the six-word memoir can also be found in *Our Difficult Sunlight: A Guide to Poetry, Literacy, & Social Justice in Classroom & Community*, by Georgia A. Popoff and Quraysh Ali Lansana, published this past spring by Teachers & Writers Collaborative.

## ***Student Poems from T&W Classrooms***

### **Black**

Black makes my skin color  
It darkens the sky  
Dresses up my teacher  
Keeps me safe from the rain  
Is the band around the teacher's hand  
It sounds like trick or treat  
It helps me sleep

NICHOLAS  
ps 75 / Robert E. Peary School  
Ridgewood, Queens

### **Snow Sheep**

The snow  
comes in like  
a sheep.

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*Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, Teachers & Writers magazine, 520 Eighth Avenue, Suite 2020, New York, NY 10018. The e-mail address is [letters@twc.org](mailto:letters@twc.org). All letters should include the writer's name, address, and daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We are unable to acknowledge or return unpublished letters.*

It likes to leap  
into action

The snow  
is so white it  
looks like a sheep's  
body.

Then someone  
scares it away.

The sheep is  
leaving its white coat  
behind.

ARIELLE  
ps 276 / Louis Marshall  
Carnarsie, Brooklyn

### **Strawberry**

In the middle, stars in the sky.  
When you open it, it feels so soft.  
When you taste it, it tastes so sweet.  
Outside, it's red and has seeds.  
When you smell it, it smells so sweet and  
delicious.  
And, when you are about to eat it,  
it looks like a heart.

ROSELY  
ps 153 / Adam Clayton Powell  
Harlem, Manhattan

### **Climbing Yemen**

I climbed a house.  
It was a little tall.  
But, in Yemen,  
we were like monkeys.  
We could climb anywhere.

ABDULRAHMAN  
ps 153 / Adam Clayton Powell  
Harlem, Manhattan