



Student Samples:

I'm From the Woods... by Nick

I'm from the woods and the creek behind my fence
From the gray wooden backyard deck.
I'm from the honeysuckles,
The pear trees by the neighbor's garden
From the creek when I swing over it.

I'm from the yellow walls of Grandma's kitchen
From the Yorkshire pup, the coolest thing in my family.
I'm from macaroni pictures of the Ark
From "I just can't snap my fingers and make it happen" and from David the Gnome in
summers long ago.

I'm from my mom's side of the family,
From roasting turkeys for each holiday,
From when Papaw yelled at his boss and got fired
From the family pictures in the big wooden cabinet and
From the family gatherings when we drag them out.

I am from those moments.
A root that no one sees, but walks all over
An important part of the tree.

Where I'm From... by Amber

I am from hairspray
From braces and rubber bands.
I am from lightning bugs
Fluttering in the summer night sky.

I am from Belle
The cute little puppy
We rescued from the pound
And Smoky the cat
Whose death still touches my heart.

I am from Papaw's goulash
And Momma's pumpkin pie
From Dad's overbearing
Protectiveness of his little girl.

I am from outrageous
Eleven foot Christmas trees
And joyous Thanksgiving feasts.

I am from French immigrants
From 1692 and New Paltz, New York
I am from Louis Bevier and Marie le Blanc

I am from the American dream
From broken despair and gained hope
I am the present, past, and future
History in the making.

Pre_Writing Brainstorming

Think of a place that is significant to you. Maybe a place where something meaningful happened in your life or somewhere you have fond memories.

Use this list to generate ideas for your poem:

- Names of important people related to this place (relatives, friends, etc)
- Special foods or meals eaten in this place
- Traditions practiced in this place
- Favorite songs and stories
- Familiar phrases used in this place
- Ordinary items found in this place
- Important beliefs valued in this place
- Heroes of this place
- Significant events (happy and/or sad) that have happened in this place
- Images that represent this place
- Sounds that represent this place
- Smells that represent this place