**LESSON GOALS**

- Students will identify words and phrases that signify broader themes of the oral history narration.
- Students will deconstruct an oral history text and reconstruct it to produce a creative work.

**OVERVIEW**

This lesson is a culminating activity for use with printed transcripts of the oral histories. Students construct either a word collage or black-out poem using a transcript of an oral history clip. This activity gives students an opportunity to engage with the words of the document while making a creative product that may offer new insights into one oral history or a collection of oral histories that have been organized around a particular theme.

**SEQUENCE**

1. First, students should listen to an oral history narration without the transcript.

2. Next, students listen to the same oral history narration, this time reading along with the transcript.

3. Then, instruct students to reread the transcript and circle words and phrases that reflect important ideas. Try to avoid circling an entire sentence.

4. For black-out poetry, students should then black out all the words that they have not circled. There are many examples of black-out poetry that can be found on the web to provide students with examples.

5. To make collage poetry, students cut out the words and phrases they have circled and paste them into an arrangement on a new piece of paper. They can then add additional images or materials to their collage, if desired.

6. Students should then share their poems. Students can organize a poetry reading, or they can post their creations around the classroom and do a gallery walk, or they can share with their group members. Use your imagination!