

## Who are you?

1. Discuss describing words: artist, football player, sister. Intelligent, energetic? A sister? A cat owner? Purple? A frog? Brainstorm these words on the board.

- Read Emily Dickinson poem, "I'm Nobody"

I'm nobody! Who are you?  
Are you nobody, too?  
Then there's a pair of us — don't tell!  
They'd banish us, you know.

How dreary to be somebody!  
How public, like a frog  
To tell your name the livelong day  
To an admiring bog!

2. Write a clear sentence that incorporates as many of the descriptors as possible. (ex: I am a purple cat-loving writer of a daughter.)

3. Each student finds a partner. Students trade papers with their partner and each reads the other's sentence aloud. Now they must draw their sentence, and ONLY what they hear!

4. Discuss: what did your drawings look like? How were they different from what you wrote? How did they make what you wrote different or better? Did they make you want to add to your sentence?

5. Students can share and discuss their sentences/drawings.

6. What would it be like to be something else—an animal or an object? What if I were a television? I would have a big, blank face. There would be music and lights inside me! What if you could be a raccoon? A window? What would you see? What would your days be like? Brainstorm.

Read example poems:

### The Guinea Pig

The guinea pig's eyes are red as a heart. You run around and don't know where you're going. The strange feelings as you run around in your cage. Your ears so tender and light. That fur coat you wear is so soft. You have fun and affection. I run around not knowing what is happening too. It's like a world of your own. (*Marion Mackles*)

## Needles

Two needles were talking.  
One of them said tell me a story.  
Ok said the other one.  
Well once two needles were talking.  
One of them said how do you feel about going through material.  
Well said the other I like going through satin and velvet but  
I can't stand that awful scratchy wool!  
Yes, said the first. But that's not a very good story.  
Well, then let's talk about something else.  
Okay. Remember how they bent Mary?

7. Choose the thing that you'd like to be and make a small poem or story about it. Then illustrate it with a picture.

8. Students share what they have made. With any leftover time, read selected poems.