Play with a Purpose
Episode 2: You Real Cool!
Grown-Up Guide

**Book/Material**
We Real Cool, A Song in the Front Yard, and Boy Breaking Glass
Written by Gwendolyn Brooks
This is All I have for Me Written by Damien McClendon

**Concepts**
stream of consciousness; always poeting; Harlem Renaissance

**Words to Know**
Poet Laureate,

**Main Activity**
After watching Amy and Damien discuss the poet, students will make their own Golden Shovel Poem from one of the Gwendolyn Brooks’ poems read.

**Follow Up/ Extension**
1. Students can describe their own backyards (local park, or wherever they may play). Students can either draw a picture or write their own poem to share their experiences with others.

2. Read another poem by the same author. (see example on next page) and talk about how the words and ideas are similar.

Lake Erie Ink
A writing space for youth
2843 Washington Blvd Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

216-320-4757
lakeerieink.org
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Additional Resources

1. Read the original Golden Shovel poem by Terrance Hayes: The Golden Shovel
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/55678/the-golden-shovel

2. For more information on the Golden Shovel type of poem, check out https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_shovel

3. Check out Bronzeville Boys and Girls by Gwendolyn Brooks to read her poems for and about children:

4. Watch Amanda Gorman (a youth poet laureate) read her inauguration poem “The Hill We Climb”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZ055illiN4

Video Link
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Miv3HRTC9Z4&t=919s