Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Brainstorming: “Where I’m From” by George Ella Lyon**

*Directions:* Use the following questions to generate ideas for modeling the poem “Where I’m From” by George Ella Lyon.

C:\Users\shawna.steplock\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\7RXBORNK\MC900411924[1].wmfWhat household chore do you recall the most as a child? Describe it.

Describe the house/area in which you grew up. Tell about the place that you would hide, play, bury “treasure.”

Compare an aspect of that house/area to something using color, verb with –ing, and taste.

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Describe the foliage around the house/area in which you grew up.

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Compare a specific part of that foliage to something using a simile.

List items from your childhood.

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What are the names of your grandparents and great-grandparents? *List them all or just the ones with whom you have a close relationship.*

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Describe your family members using clichés or nicknames.

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What are some common sayings in your family? *Keep them clean and school appropriate.*

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What is your favorite Bible verse or quotation? What memory(ies) do you have to accompany that idea?

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C:\Users\shawna.steplock\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\R7AENMWE\MC900324698[1].wmfWhat are your parent’s names?

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What foods (entrée/desserts/finger foods and drinks) are popular in your family?

What stories do you tell repeatedly in your family? Or what are some stories in your family that are important to pass to the next generation?

C:\Users\shawna.steplock\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\7RXBORNK\MC900059658[1].wmfWhere are the memories of your family history kept?

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Compare your life to something else that grows.

Now take your ideas from above and play “Mad Libs.” Substitute your experiences, ideas, descriptions for Lyon’s original words. Don’t worry about rhyming or rhythm. Keep the frame of the lines and intent the same.

It may be helpful to go to the original poem and highlight the words you want to replace.