Take and Make

Blackout Poem

Provided Supplies:
1 marker
4 pages from a book

Instructions:
1.Scan the page first before reading it completely. Keep an eye out for any words that pop out to you! Scanning through the pages first helps you find words to imagine possible themes and topics for your poem.
2.Now read the page of text in its entirety. Use a pencil to lightly circle any words that connect or resonate with you. Resonant words might be expressive or evocative, but for whatever reason, these are the words on the page that stick with you. Avoid circling more than three words in a row.
3.Select words, without changing their order on the list, and piece them together to create the lines of a poem. You can eliminate parts of words, especially any endings, if it helps to keep the meaning of the poem clear. Try different possibilities for your poem before selecting the lines for your final poem.
4. With your final choice of words you can now erase the circles around any words you will not be using and begin using your marker to circle the chosen words and cross out the rest of the text from the page.
5.If you would like you can add an illustration or design to the page of text that connects to your poem. Be very careful not to draw over the circled words you selected for your final poem! Now you have your own Blackout Poem!

Cincinnati & Hamilton County
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513.369.6038
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