



2023-2024 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST GUIDELINES

“I Spy With My Little Eye, Something Green Outside Celebrating Our Green World”



Eligibility

- Special Education: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade.
- English as a second language: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade.
- General Education: Kindergarten through Ninth Grade.

Date of Submission

- Club entries must be sent to YOUR State’s Youth Chairperson; observe your State Deadline. State Winners must be sent to Regional Chairperson by **February 1, 2024**. Regional Winners must be sent to National Chairperson by **March 1, 2024**.

Guidelines

- Poems should be no more than 24 lines (including title) with a max of 42 letters/spaces per line in order to fit on single page of booklet.
- Include name, address, age, grade, and school of participant on the back of entry.
- Sponsoring garden club and state garden club name must also be identified.
- Garden club contact person is the mailing address for any winning entries.
- Sponsoring garden club may be that of a parent or grandparent.
- All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Poems do not have to rhyme. They may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick, or haiku.
- The theme should not be used as the title to any poetry. When judging, the title is worth 10 points.
- When choosing poem title, please be creative and incorporate the theme: “I Spy With My Little Eye, Something Green Outside”.
- All Regional winning entries must be typed, titled, and sent to National Chairperson in word format via email, and the original hard copy mailed for judging.

Contact Information: Poetry Contest Chairman, James Pavelka; Email: jamespavelka@comcast.net

Website: <https://gardenclub.org/poetry-contest>