


Come Sit Under the "Poet Tree" with Shel Silverstein!

Celebrate Poetry Month by creating a "Poet Tree" in your community. Print this set of leaves double-sided. Write a poem in the leaf below, cut it out, and tie it to the branches of a tree in your store, school, or library. Be sure to share your poem and your "Poet Tree" by using the hashtag #ShelPoetTree!



Celebrate Poetry Month with the "Poet Tree" by Shel Silverstein!

Each of these leaves features a different Shel Silverstein poem with space to write your own poem on the reverse. Pick your favorite, write a poem, and create a "Poet Tree" by tying to the branches of a live or handmade tree in your community.

#ShelPoetTree
Need more leaves? Visit www.shelsilverstein.com.

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THE POET TREE

Underneath the poet tree
Come and rest awhile with me
And watch the way the word web weaves
Between the shady story leaves.

The branches of the poet tree
Reach from the mountains to the sea.
So come and sit . . . and dream . . . and climb—
Just don't get hit by falling rhymes.

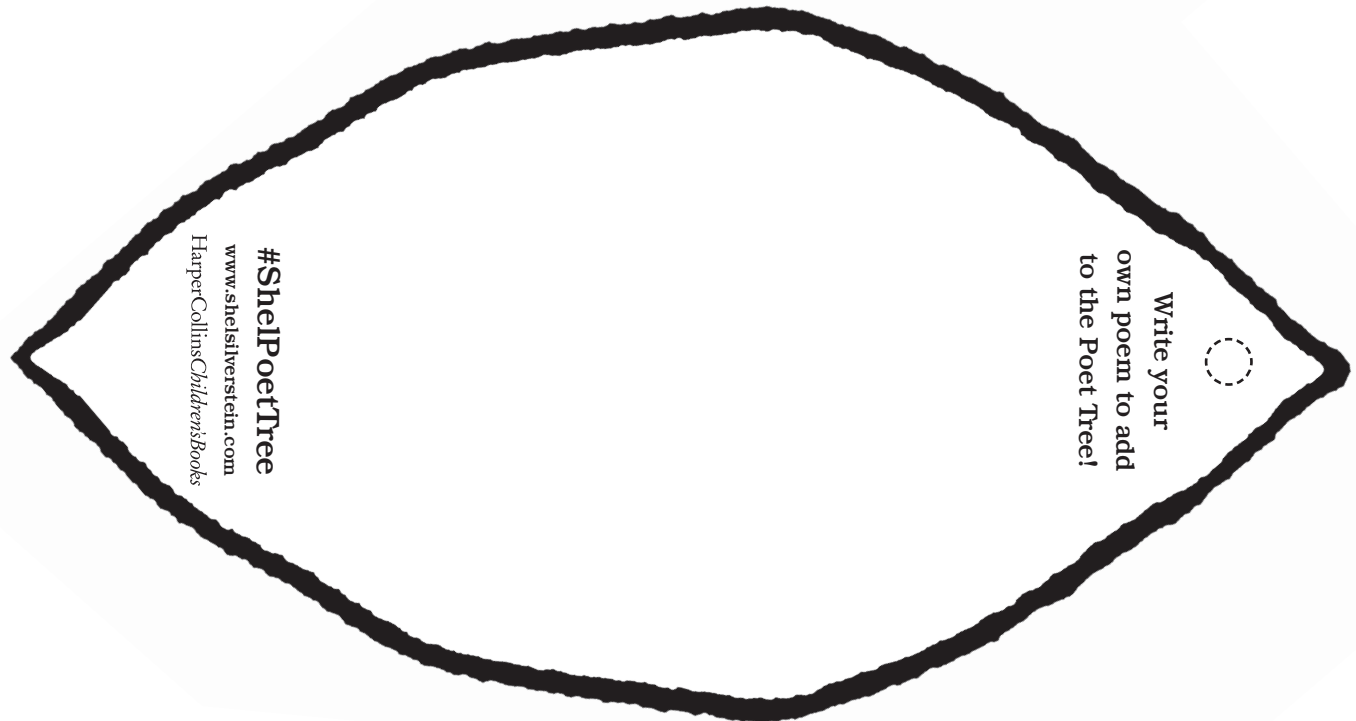
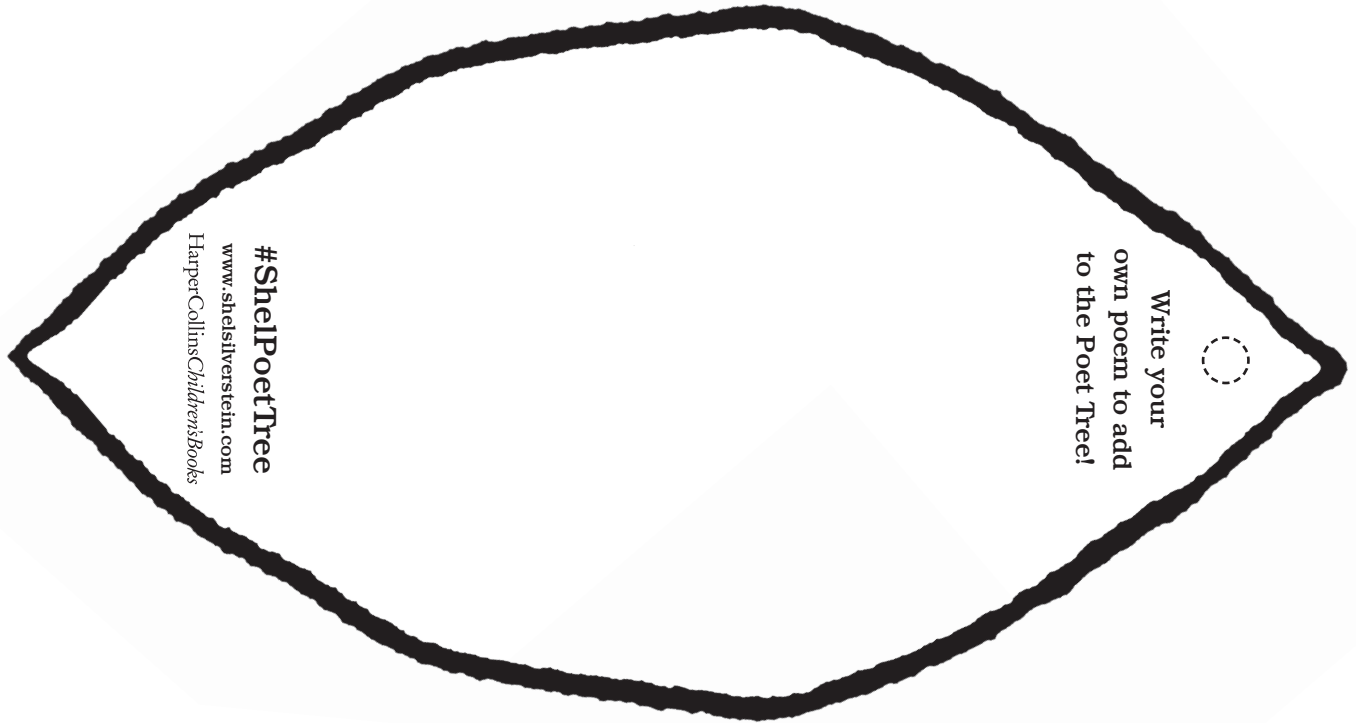
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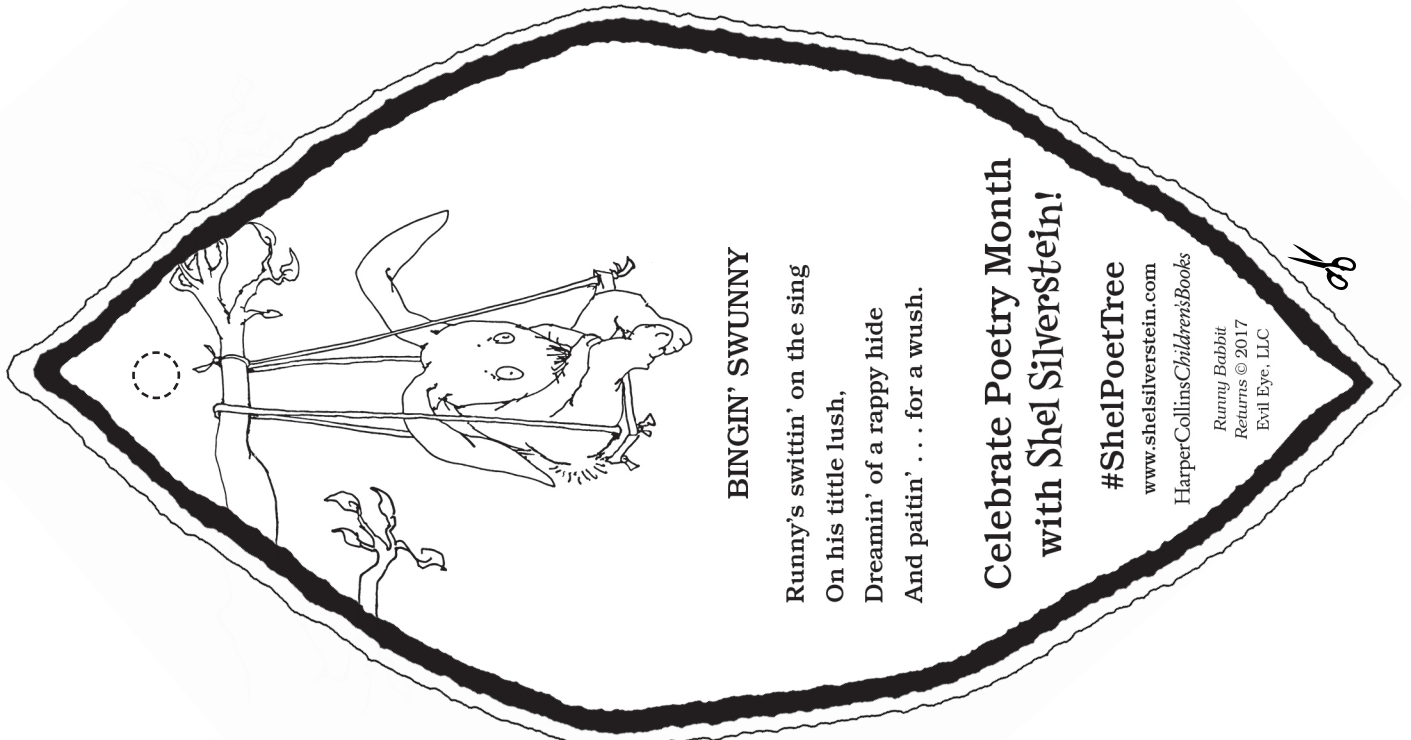
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BINGIN' SWUNNY

Runny's swittin' on the sing
On his tittle lush,
Dreamin' of a rappy hide
And paitin' . . . for a wush.

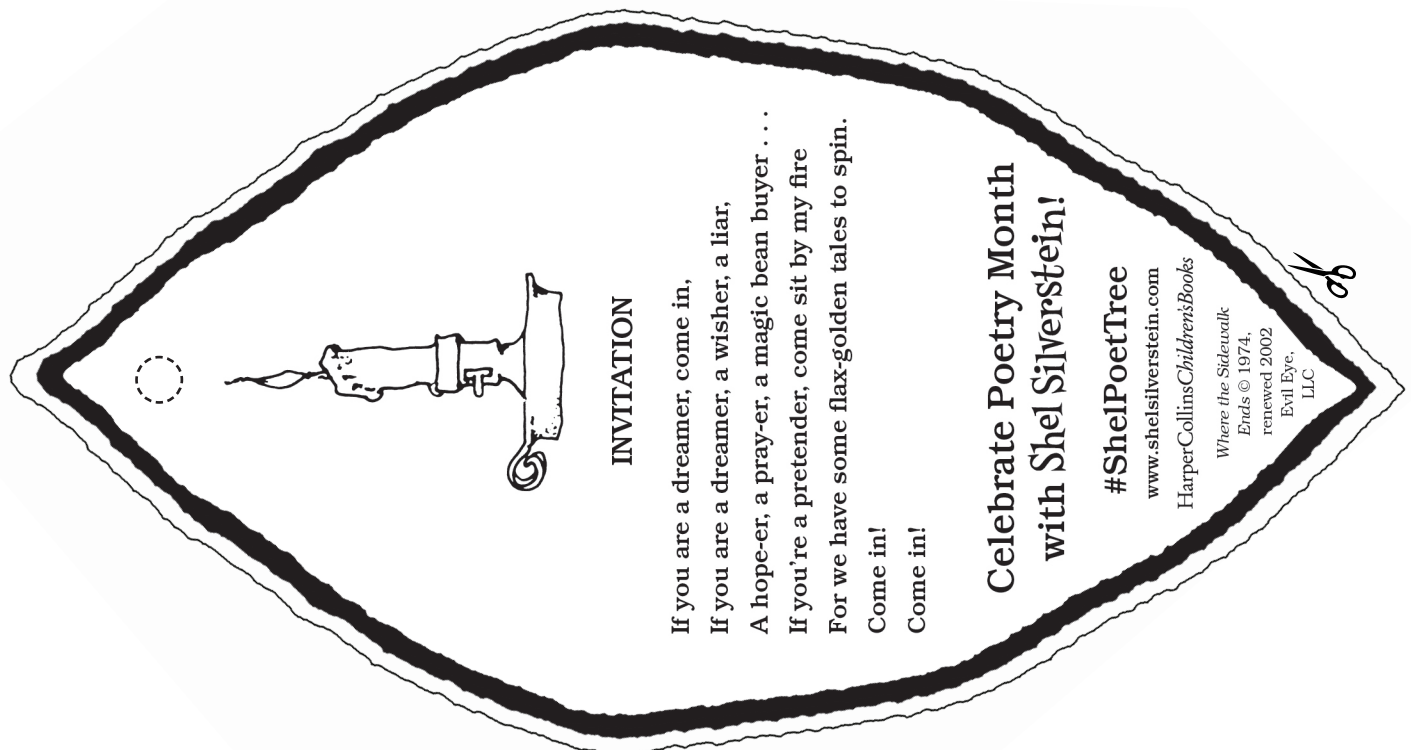
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Runny Babbit
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INVITATION

If you are a dreamer, come in,
If you are a dreamer, a wisher, a liar,
A hope-er, a pray-er, a magic bean buyer . . .
If you're a pretender, come sit by my fire
For we have some flax-golden tales to spin.
Come in!
Come in!

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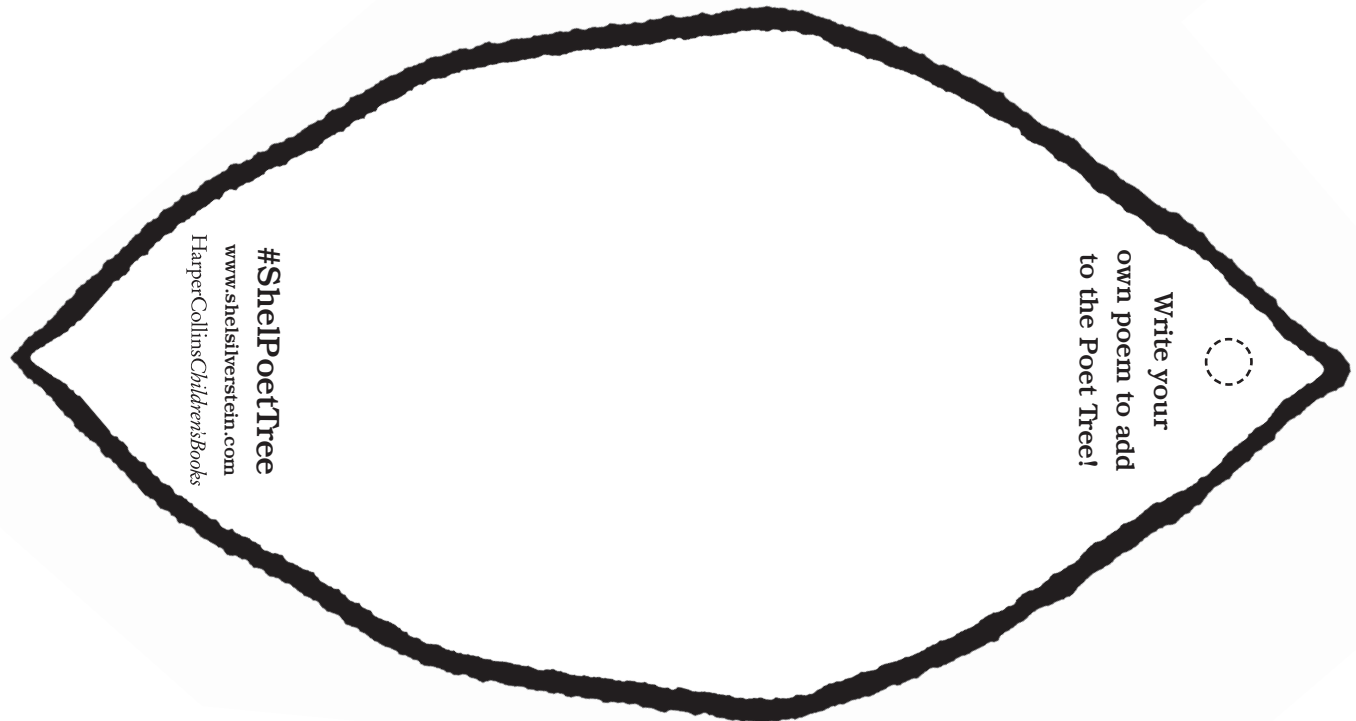
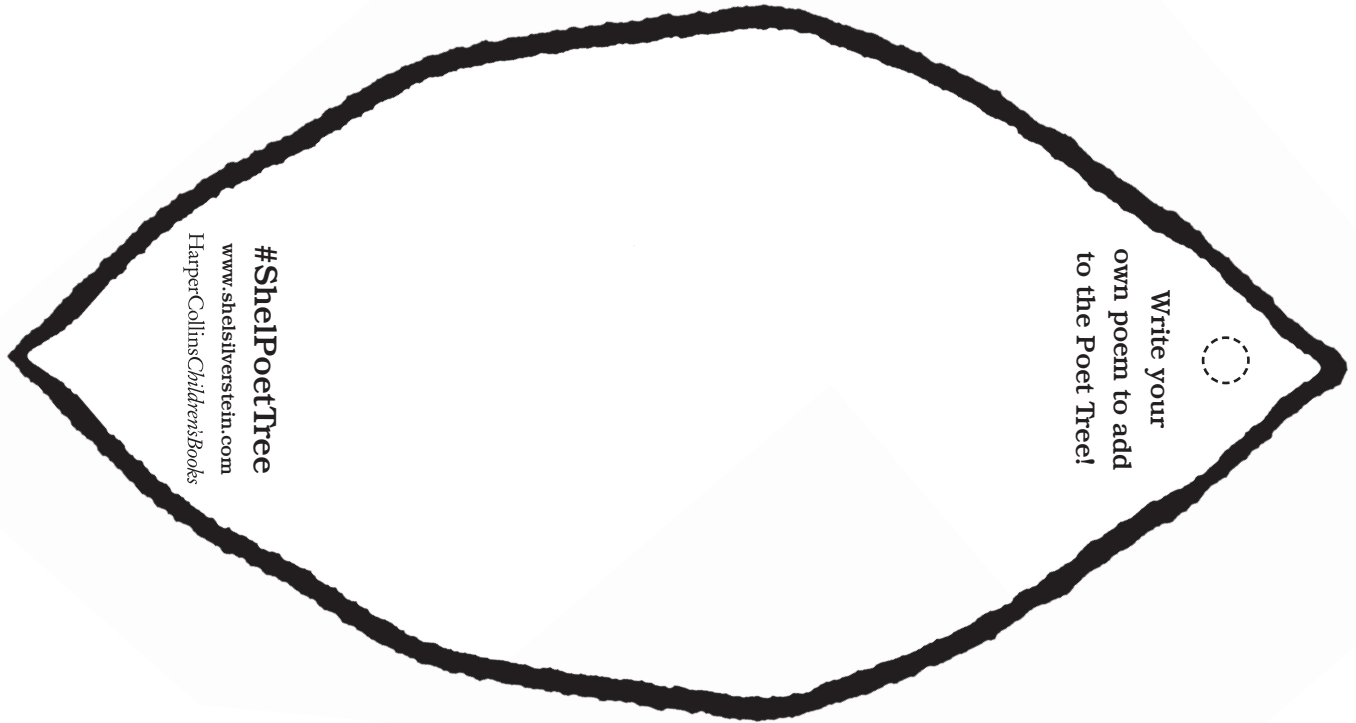
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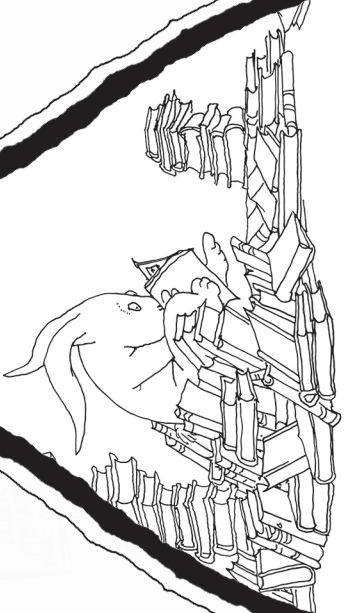
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RUNNY'S HEADING RABBIT

Runny lent to the wibrary
And there were hundreds of hooks—
Bistory hooks, biography books,
And lots of bory stooks.
He looked them over one by one
And guess which one he took—
A bience scook? A boetry pook?
Oh, no—a bomic cook!

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GARDENER

We gave you a chance
To water the plants.
We didn't mean *that* way—
Now zip up your pants.

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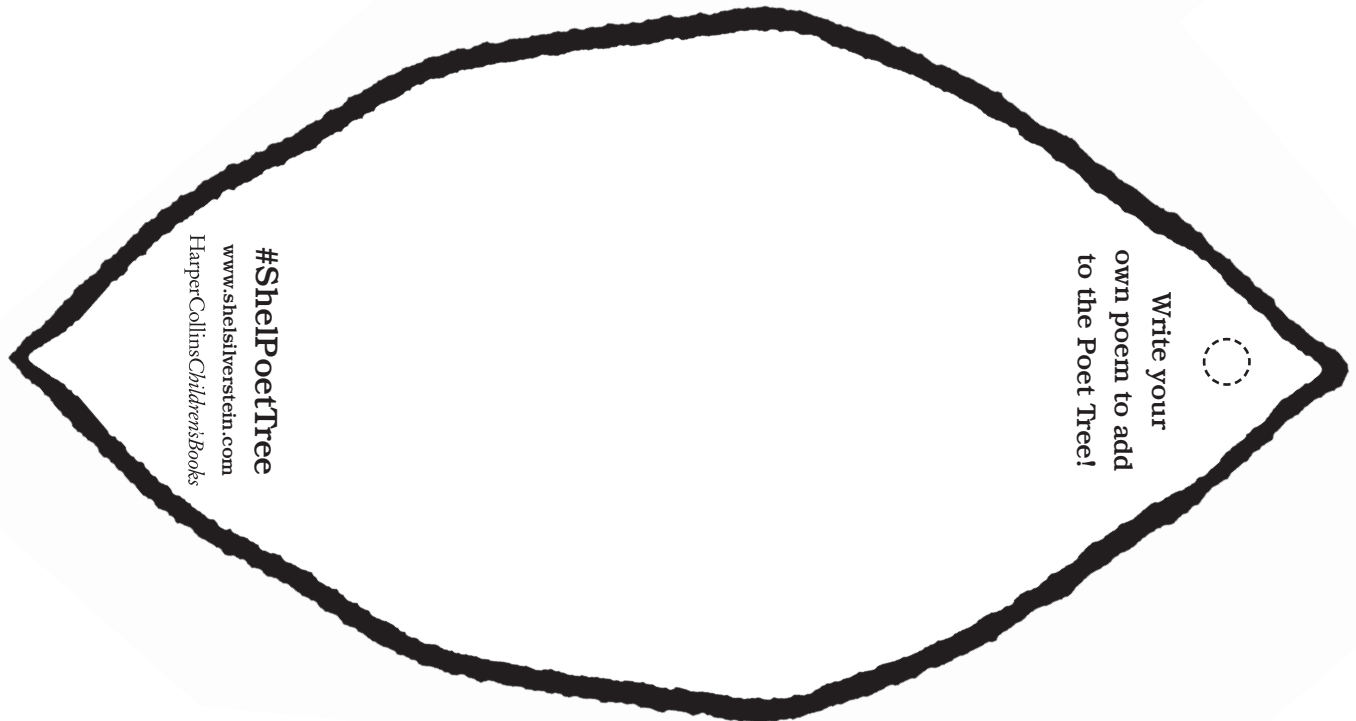
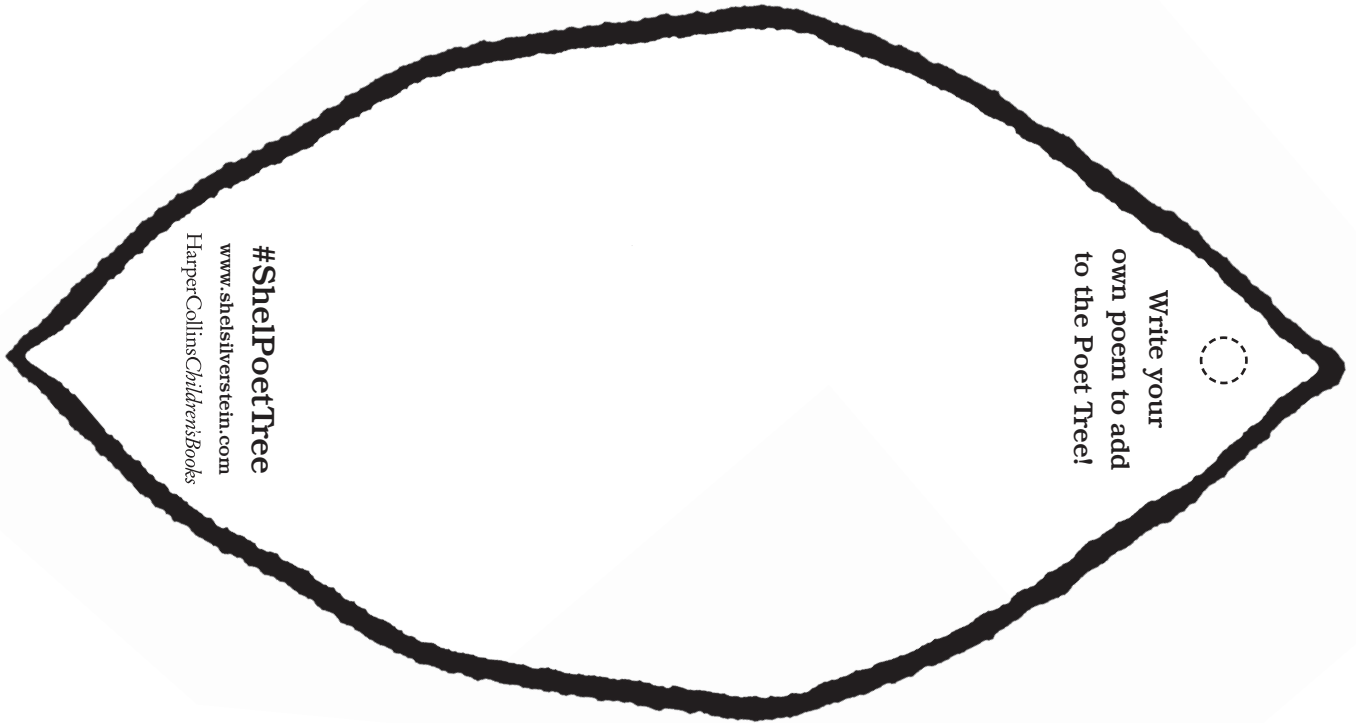
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DIRTY RUNNY

Runny would not bake a tath,
He would not shake a tower.
He just loved dittin' in the sirt
Just like a flee or trower.
But soon he dot so girty
That he started takin' root.
He said, "I'd better bake a tath
'Fore I start frowin' gruit."



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LISTEN TO THE MUSTN'TS

Listen to the MUSTN'TS, child,
Listen to the DON'TS
Listen to the SHOULDN'TS
The IMPOSSIBLES, the WON'TS
Listen to the NEVER HAVES
Then listen close to me—
Anything can happen, child,
ANYTHING can be.

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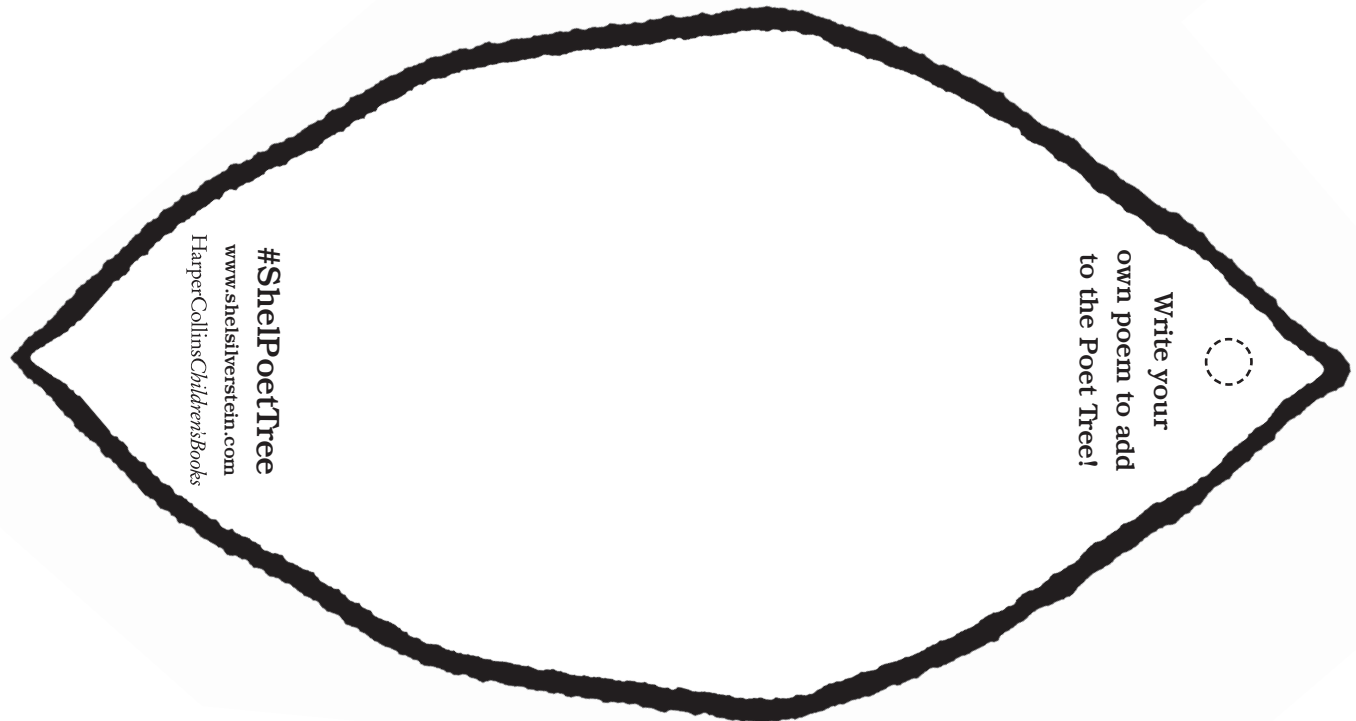
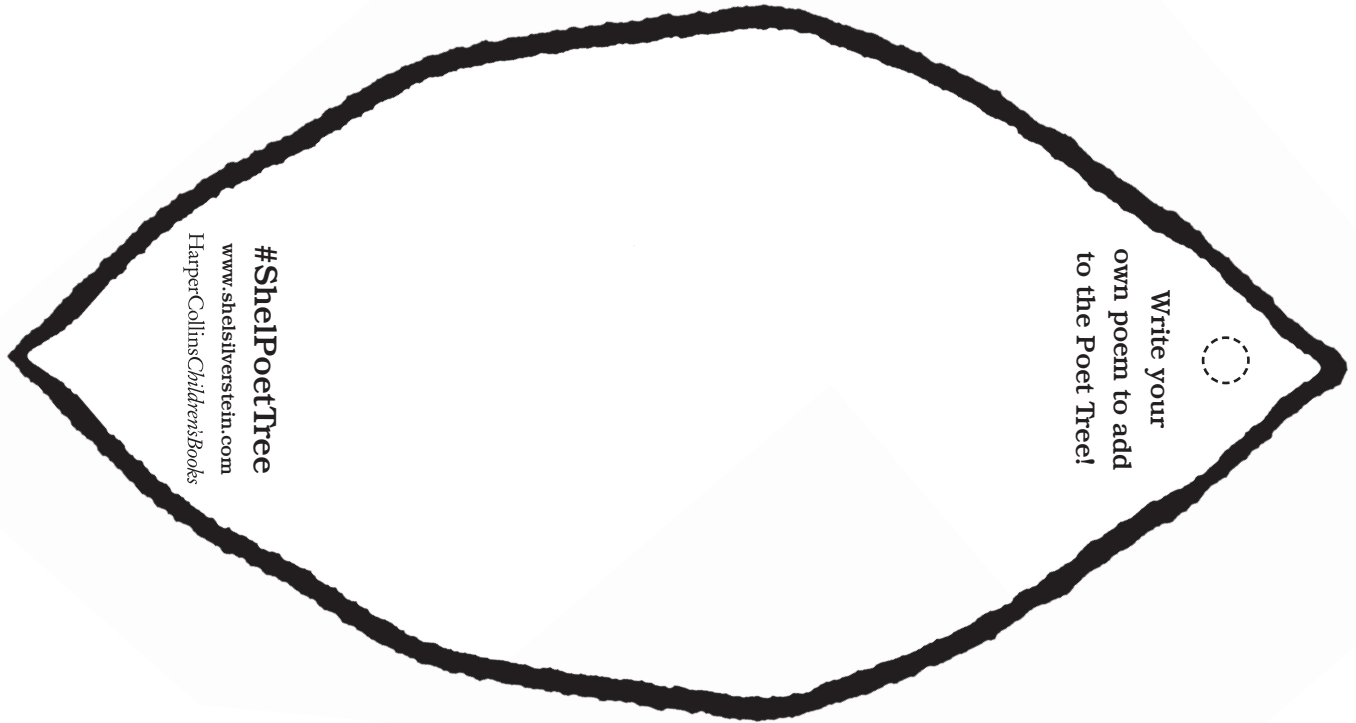
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PUT SOMETHING IN

Draw a crazy picture,
Write a nutty poem,
Sing a mumble-gumble song,
Whistle through your comb.
Do a loony-goony dance
'Cross the kitchen floor,
Put something silly in the world
That ain't been there before.

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BEDDY TEAR STETS GUCK

Runny Babbit went to see
His good friend Beddy Tear,
Who had some nice heet swoney
That she was glad to share.
They slobbered it and gurped it—
It gluck to them like stue.
Said Beddy Tear to Runny,
“I stink I’m truck on you.”



HEET
SWONEY

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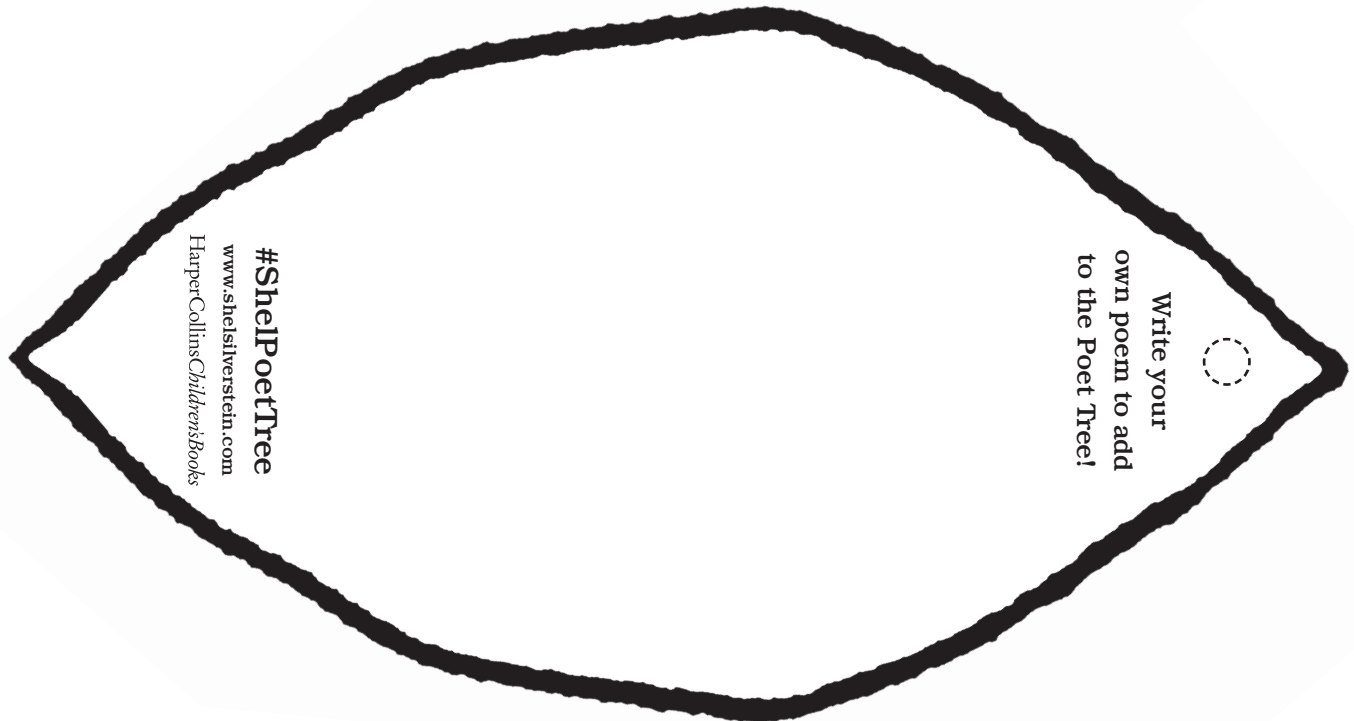
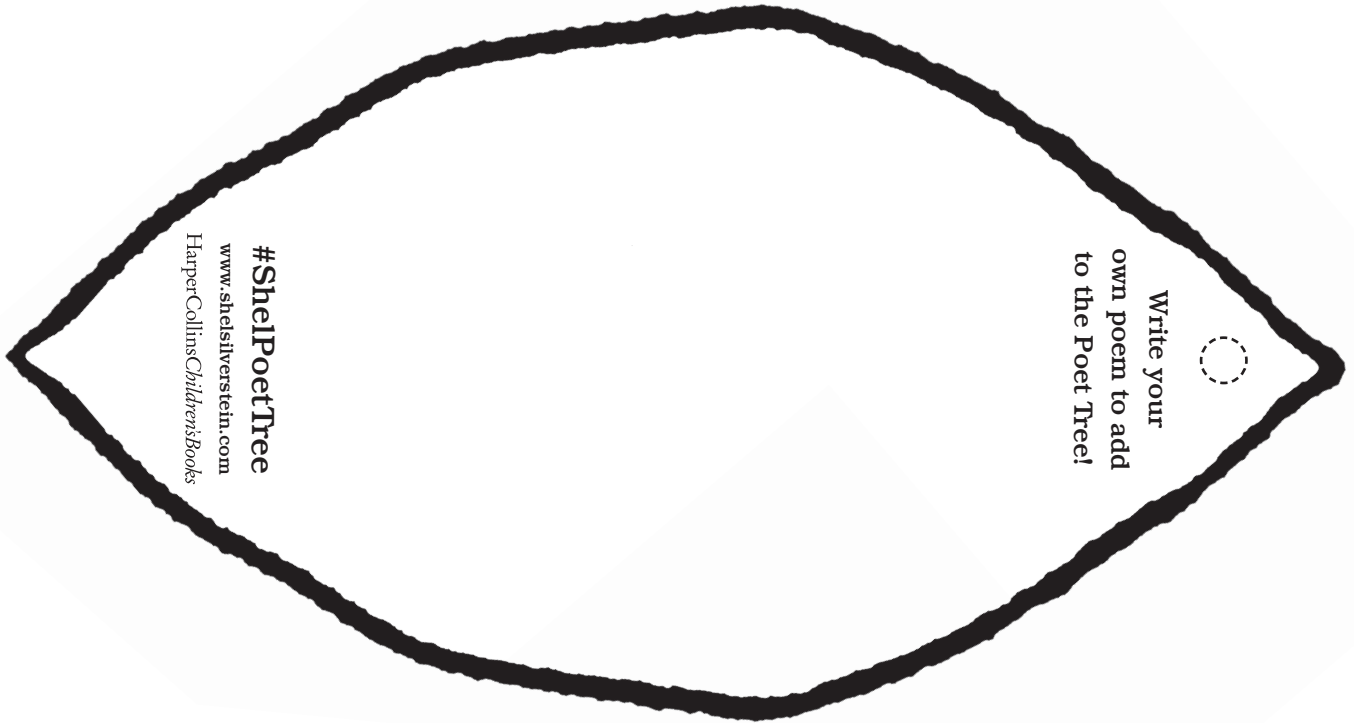
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HUG O' WAR

I will not play at tug o' war.
I'd rather play at hug o' war,
Where everyone hugs
Instead of tugs,
Where everyone giggles
And rolls on the rug,
Where everyone kisses,
And everyone grins,
And everyone cuddles,
And everyone wins.

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**RUNNY MACTICES
HIS PRUSIC**

Runny plays the paxophone
And he plays the pousaphone
And he plays the plide trombone.
(He spends lots of time . . . alone.)

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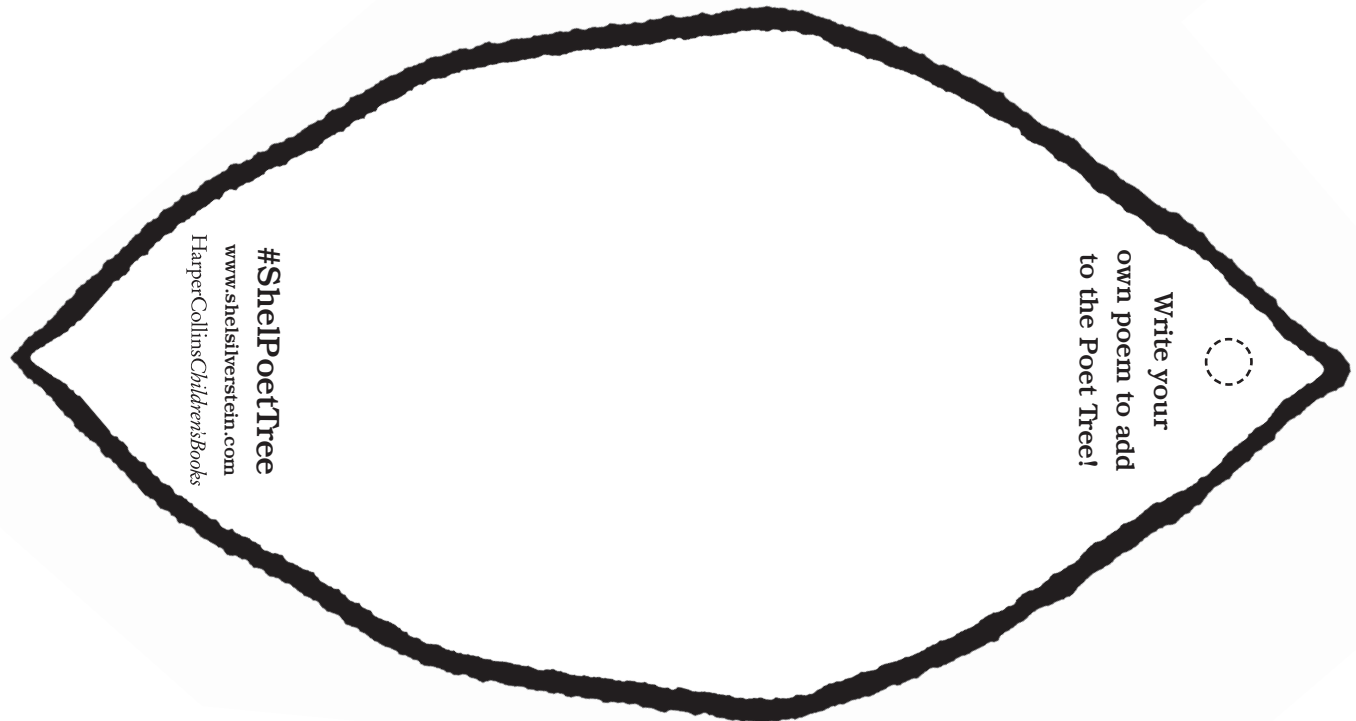
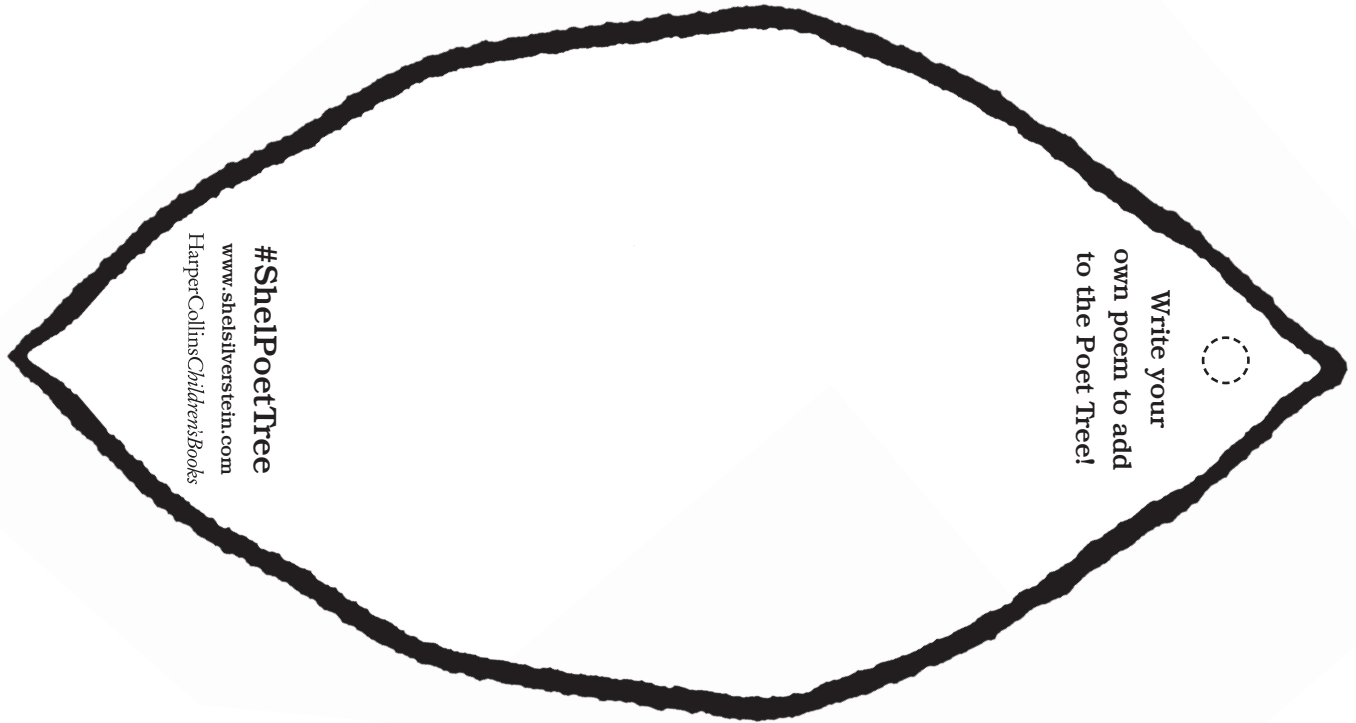
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THE VOICE

There is a voice inside of you
That whispers all day long,
“I feel that this is right for me,
I know that *this* is wrong.”
No teacher, preacher, parent, friend
Or wise man can decide
What’s right for you—just listen to
The voice that speaks inside.

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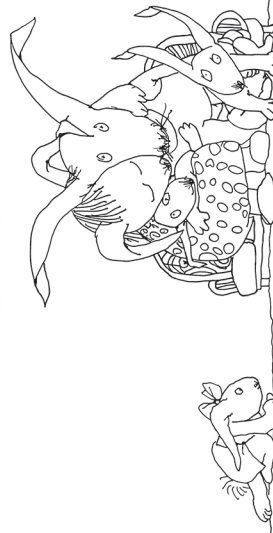
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THE FUNNY FAMILY

Runny fad a hamily—
Matter of fact, he had
A sother and two bristers,
A dummy and a mad.
His mamma fed him marrot cilk
And parrot cie and such,
And all of them were happy
In their cozy hunny butch.



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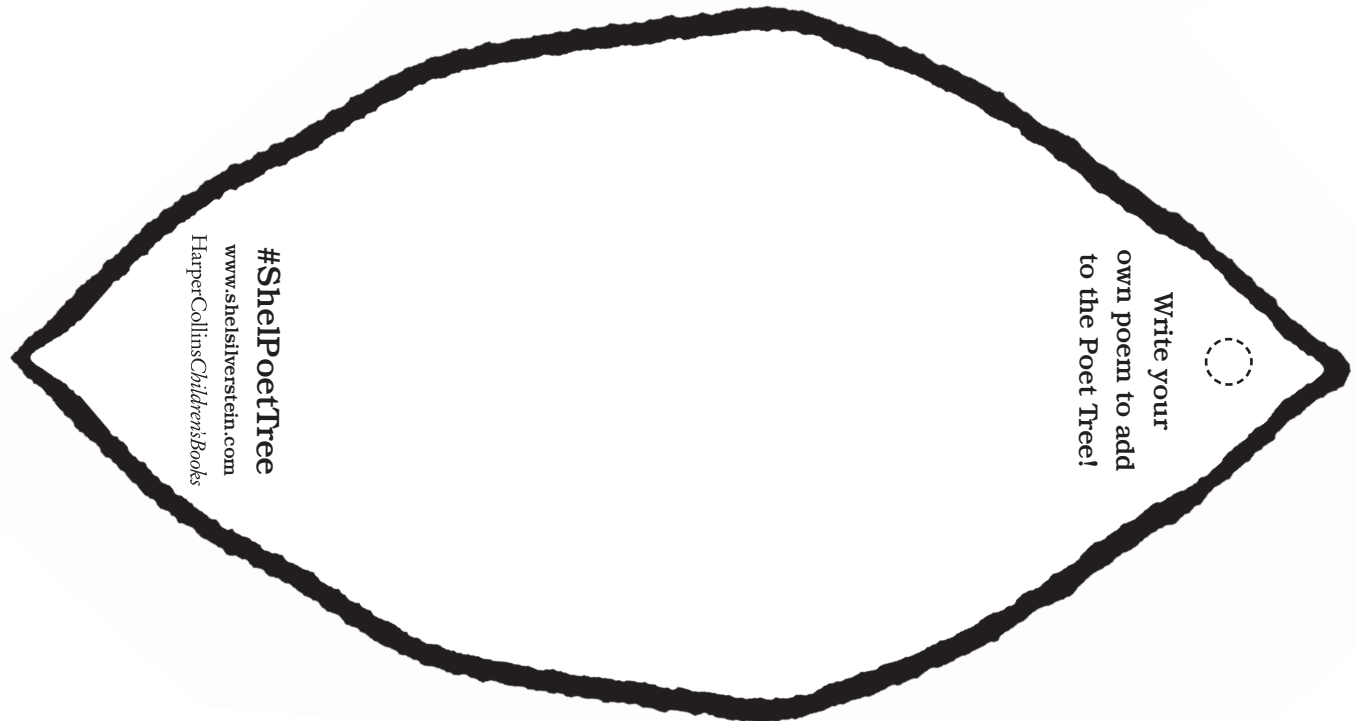
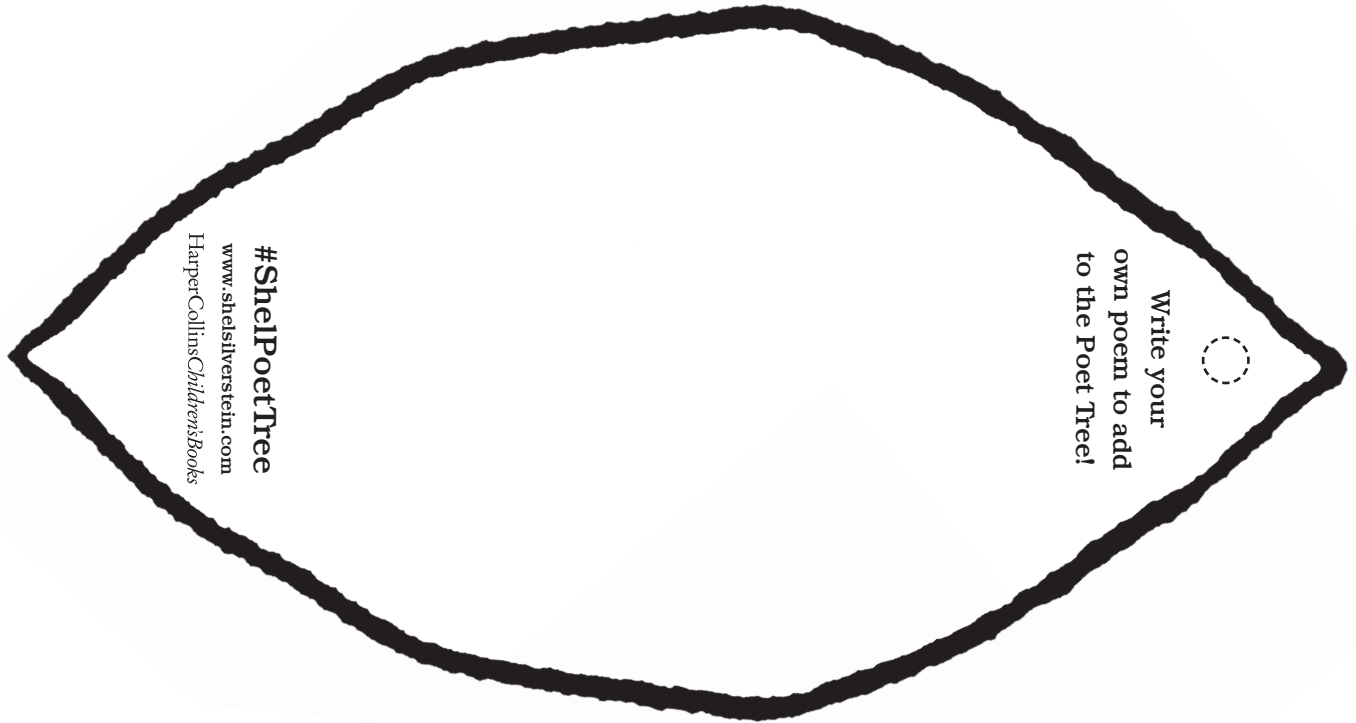
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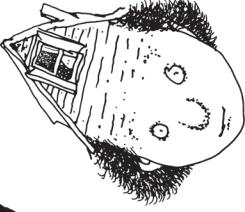
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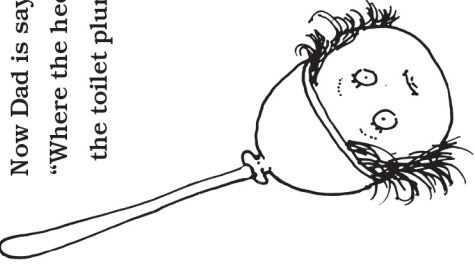

A LIGHT IN THE ATTIC

There's a light on in the attic.
Though the house is dark and shuttered,
I can see a flickerin' flutter,
And I know what it's about.
There's a light on in the attic.
I can see it from the outside,
And I know you're on the inside . . . lookin' out.

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HAT

Teddy said it was a hat,
So I put it on.
Now Dad is saying,
"Where the heck's
the toilet plunger gone?"

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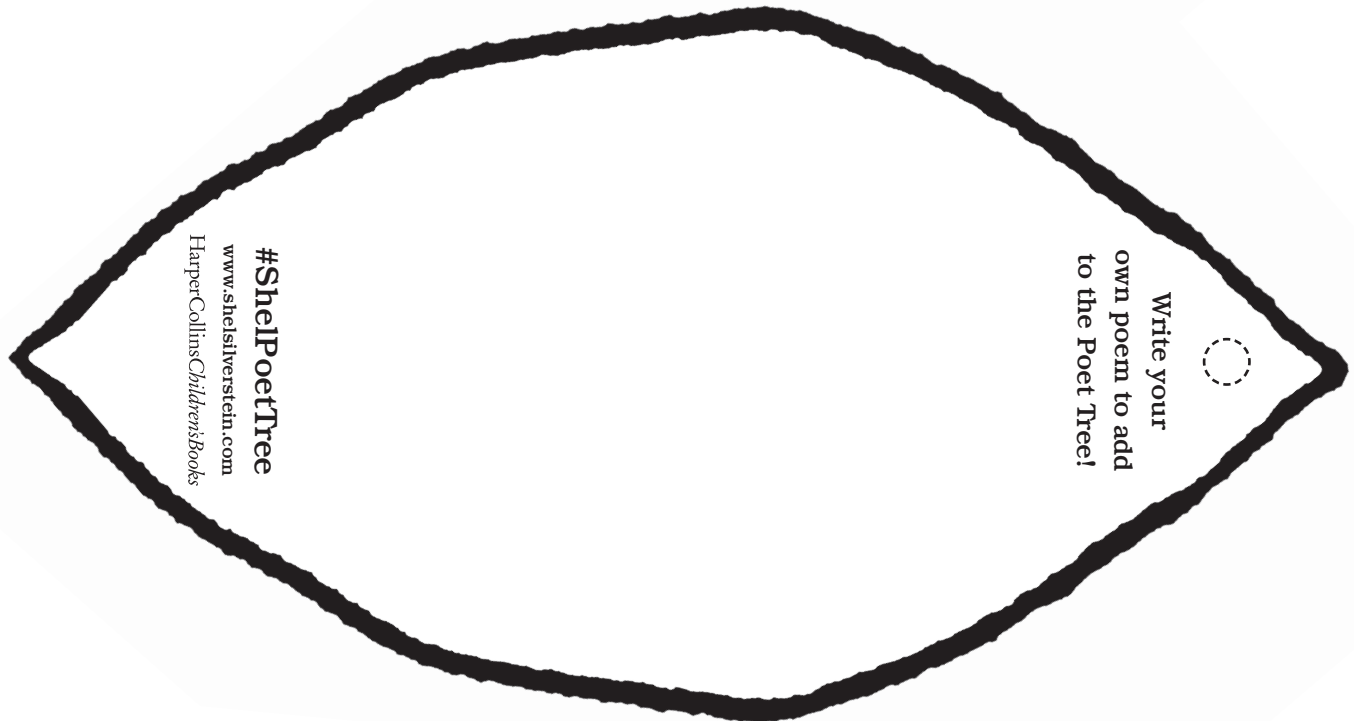
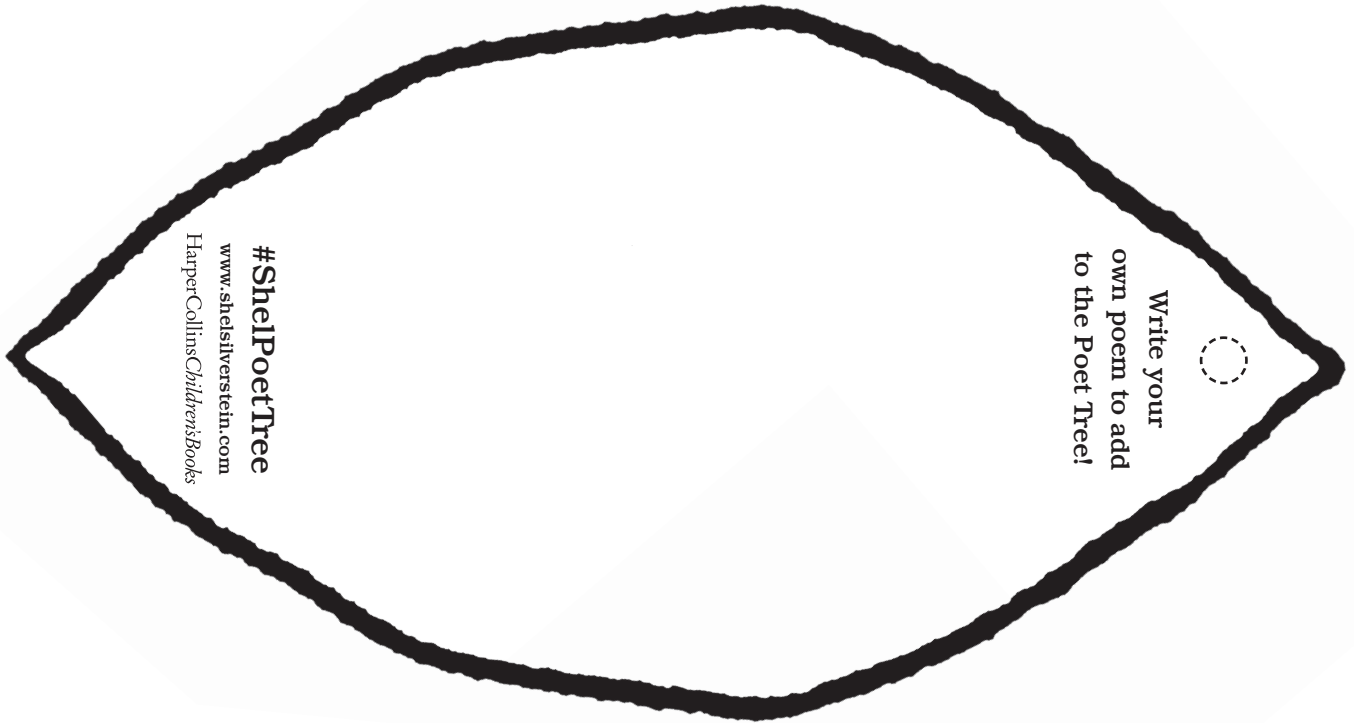
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RUNNY'S RIG BOMANCE

Runny had a firfriend,
Her name was Sunny Bue.
He called her nots of licknames,
Like "Kitchy-Itchy-Koo."
Sometimes he called her "Boney-Hun,"
And sometimes "Dovey Lear,"
But he only called her "Peety-Swie"
When no one else could hear.



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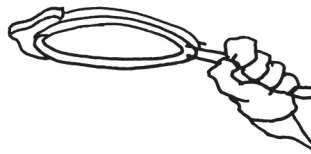
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WAVY HAIR

I thought that I had wavy hair
Until I shaved. Instead,
I find that I have *straight* hair
And a very wavy head.



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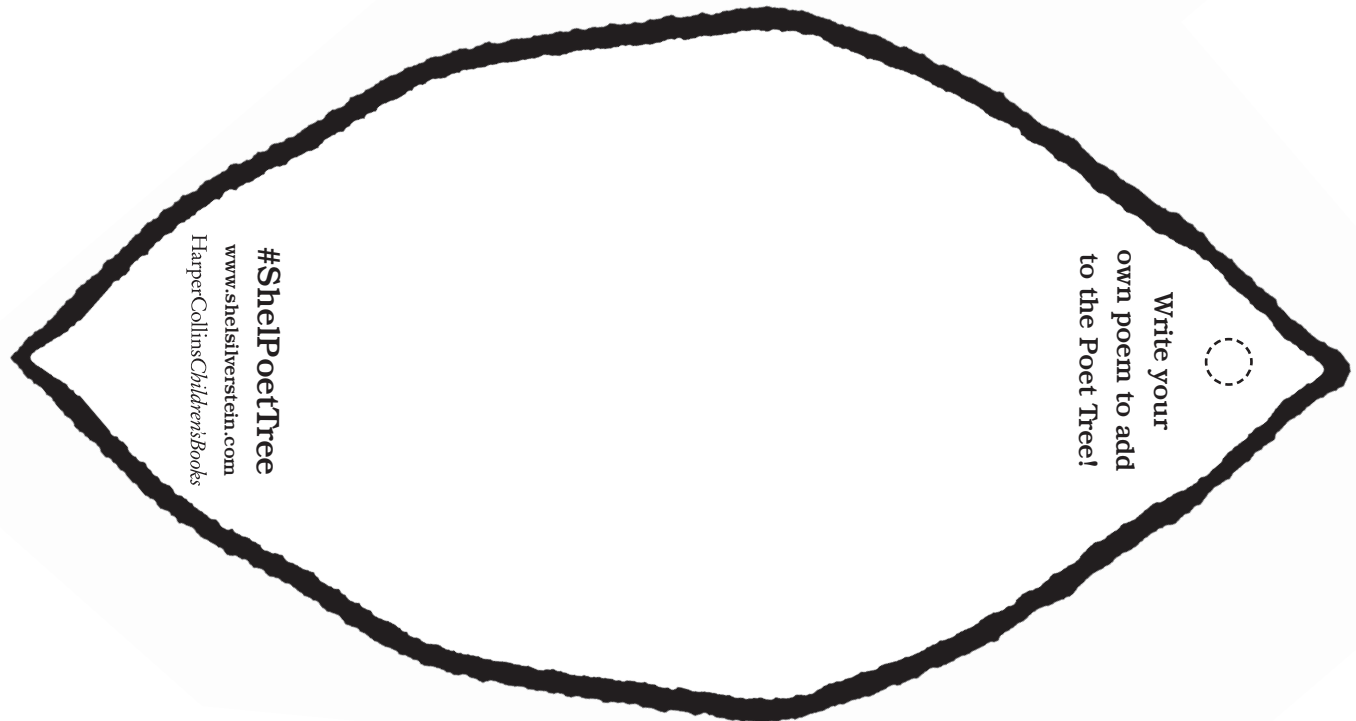
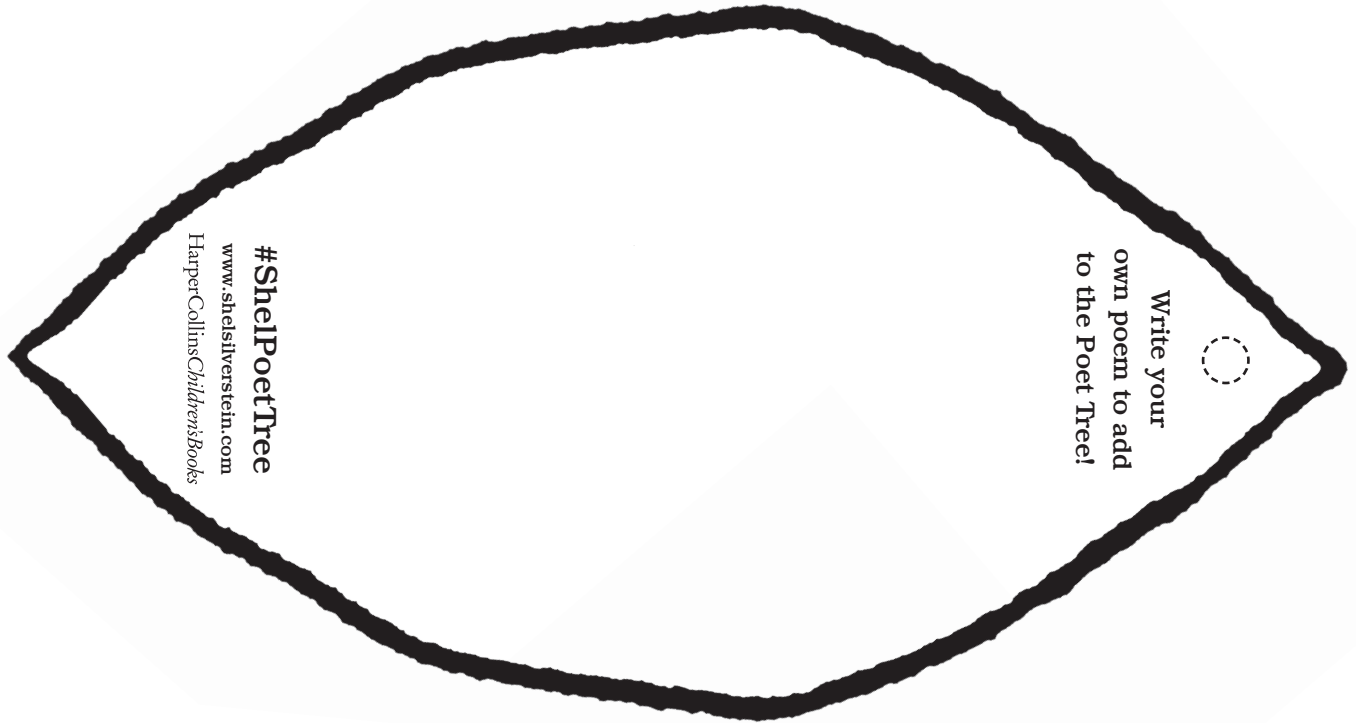
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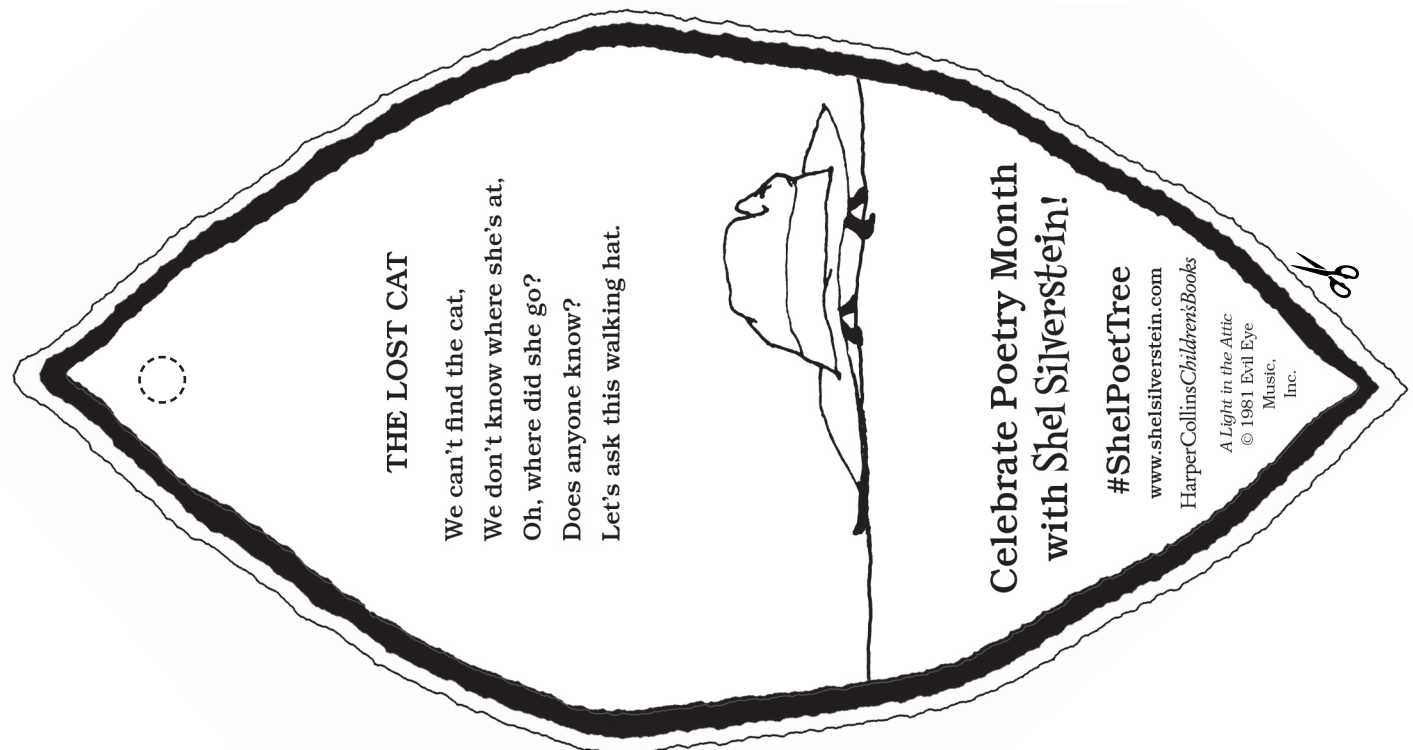
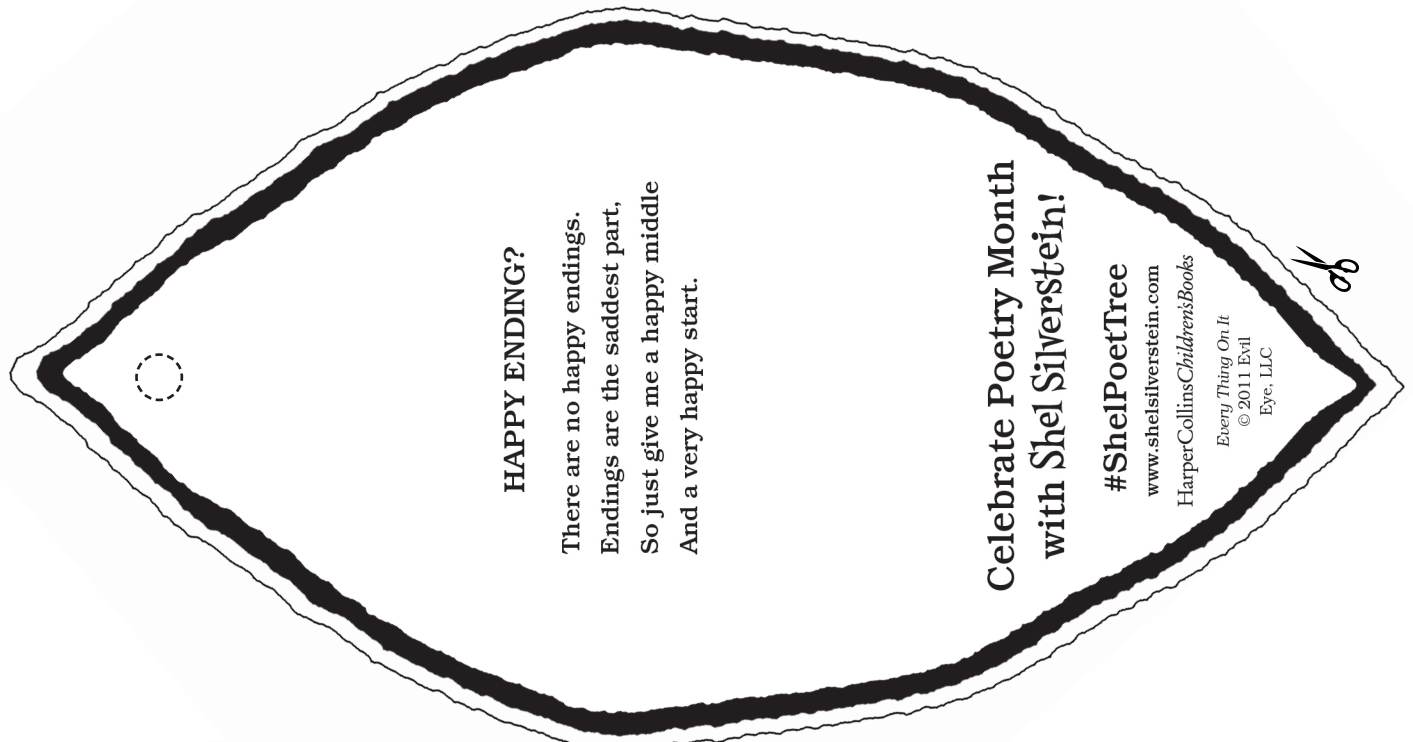
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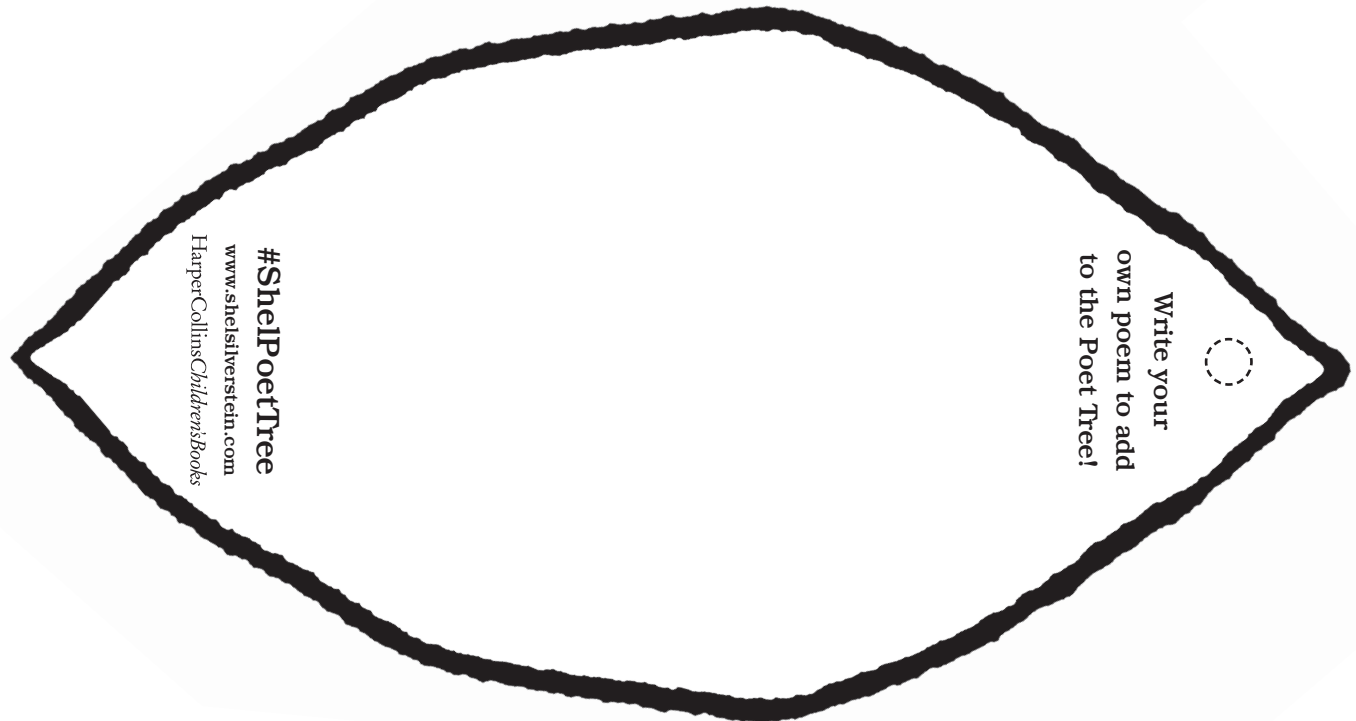
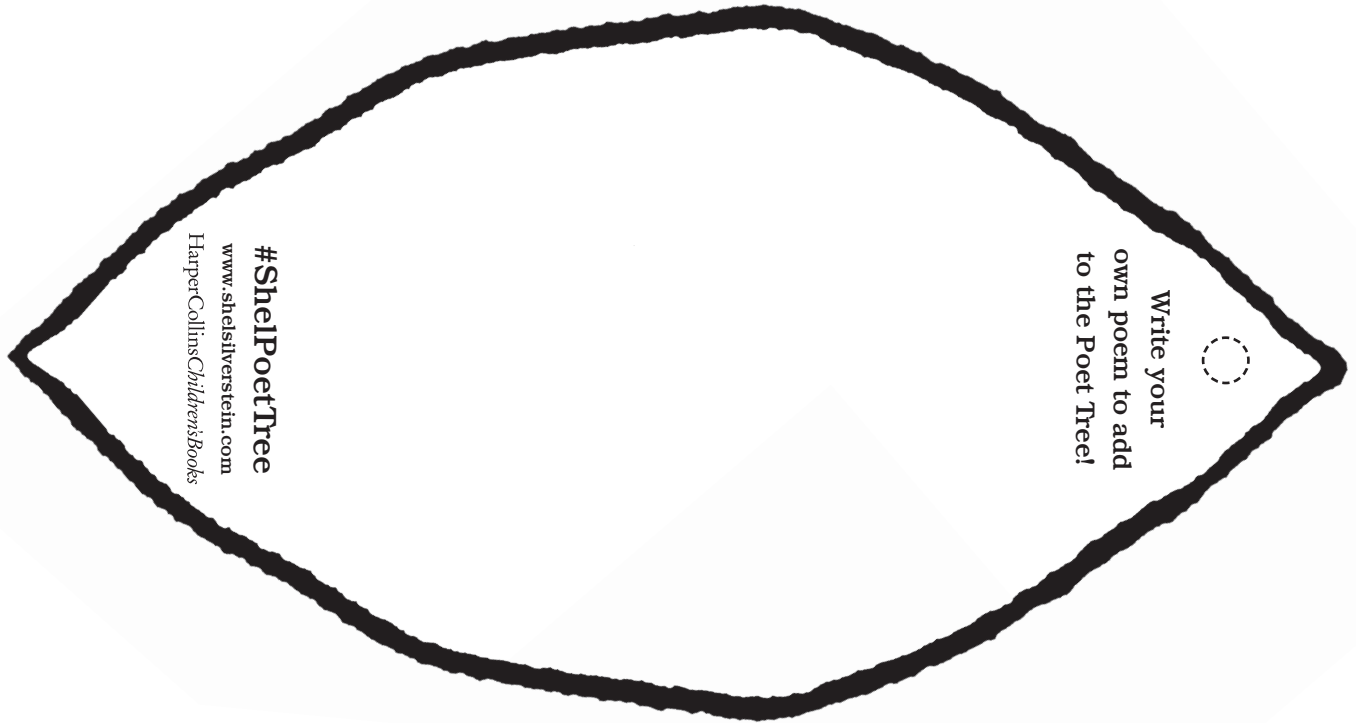
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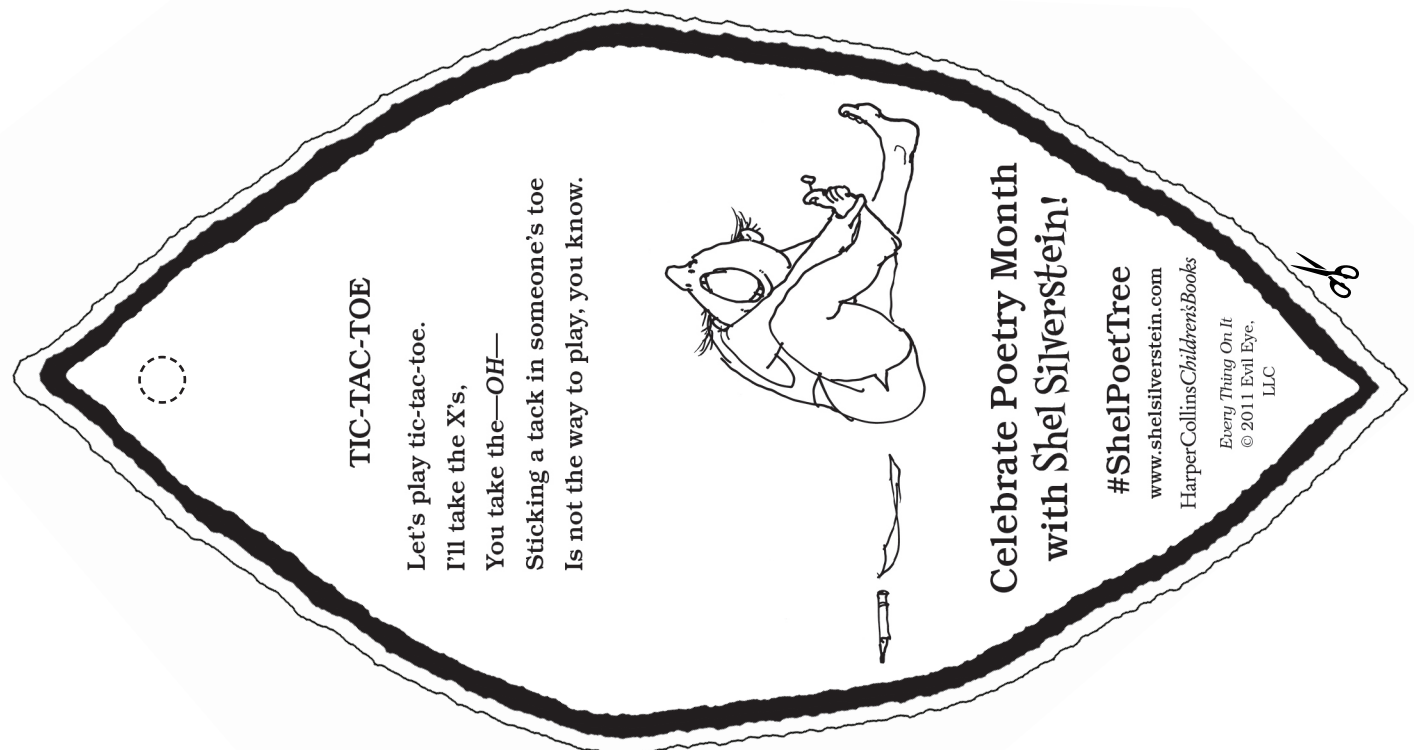
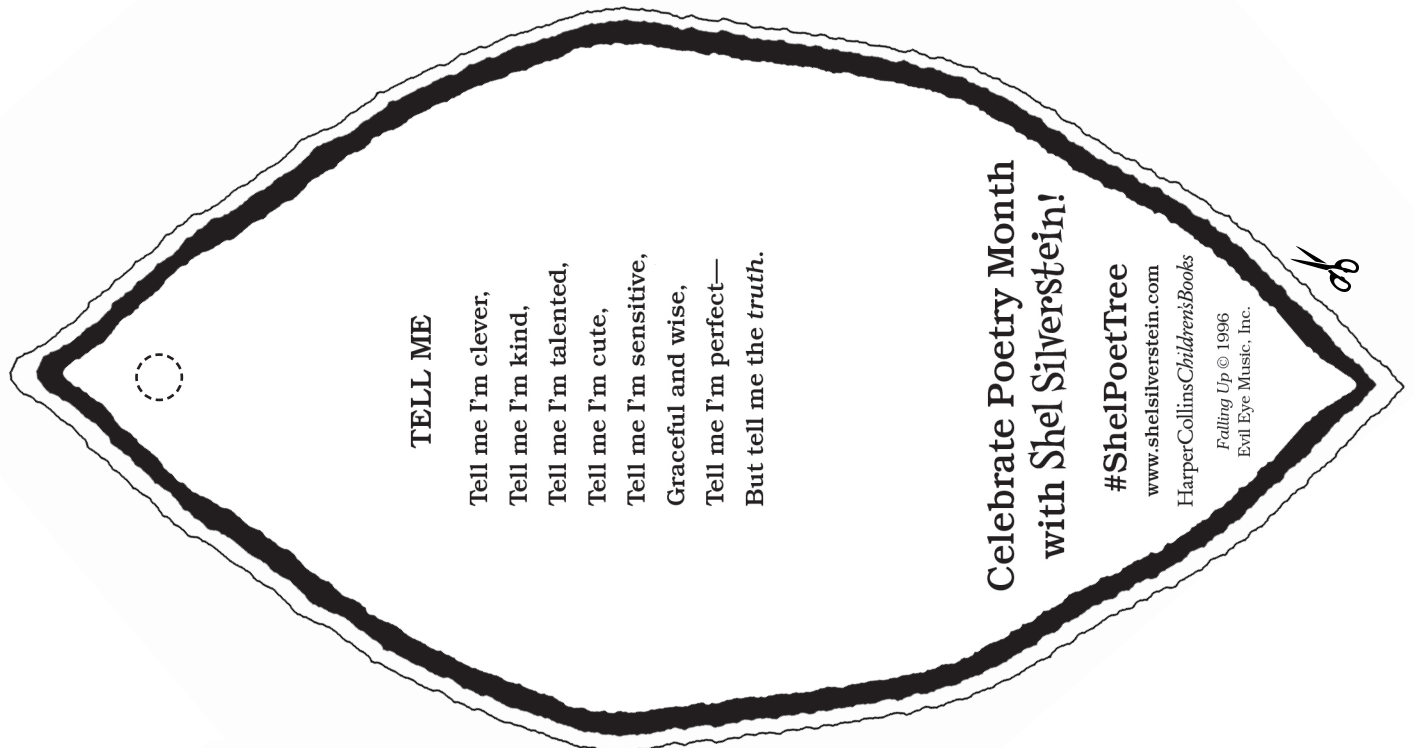
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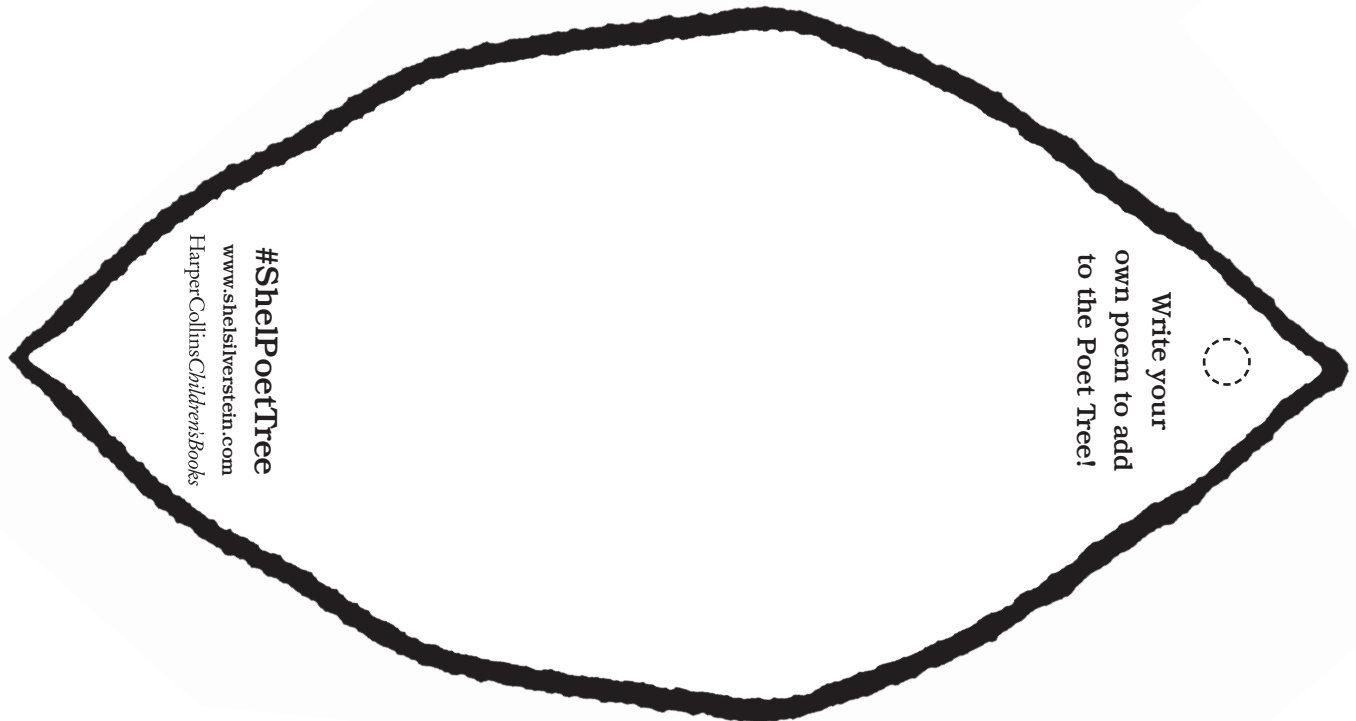
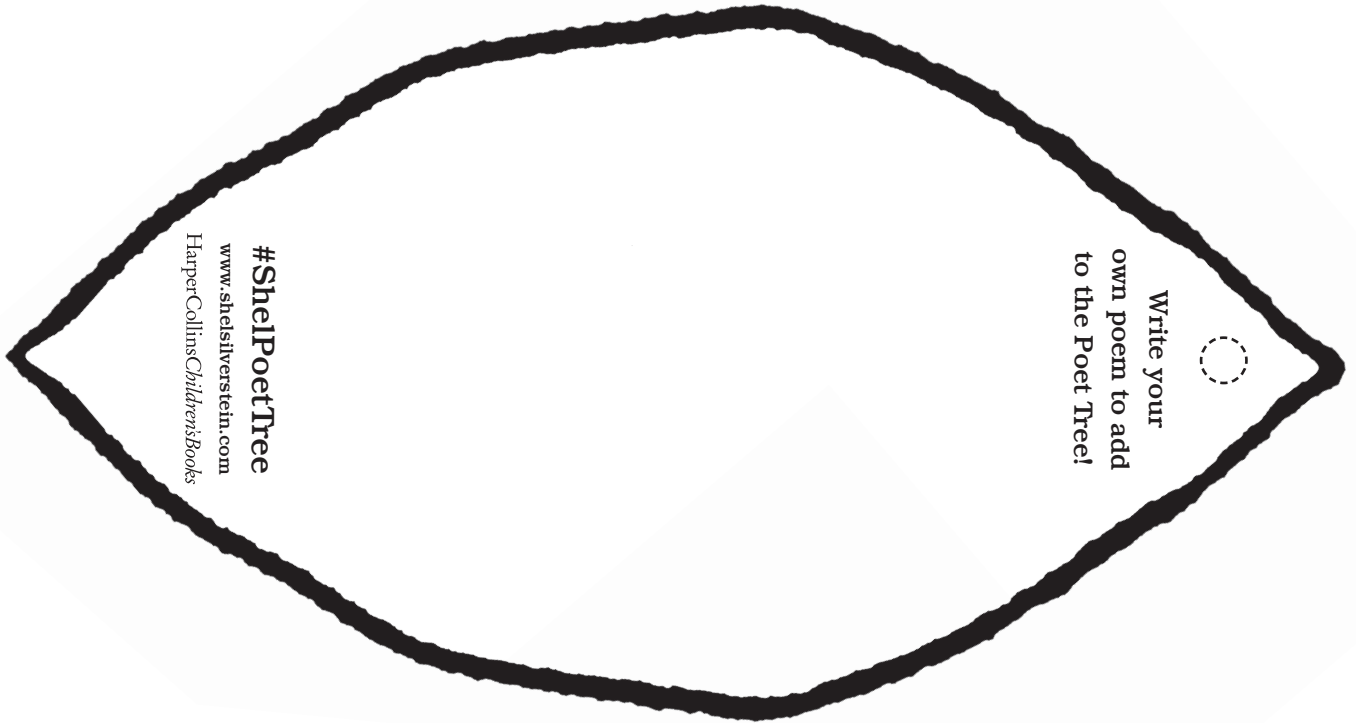
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INVENTION

I've done it, I've done it!
Guess what I've done!
Invented a light that plugs into the sun.
The sun is bright enough,
The blub is strong enough,
But, oh, there's only one thing wrong . . .
The cord ain't long enough.



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RUNNY'S JIG BUMP

Runny be quimble,
Runny be nick,
Runny cump over the jandlestick.
But now—what smells like furning bluff?
Guess he didn't hump jigh enough.



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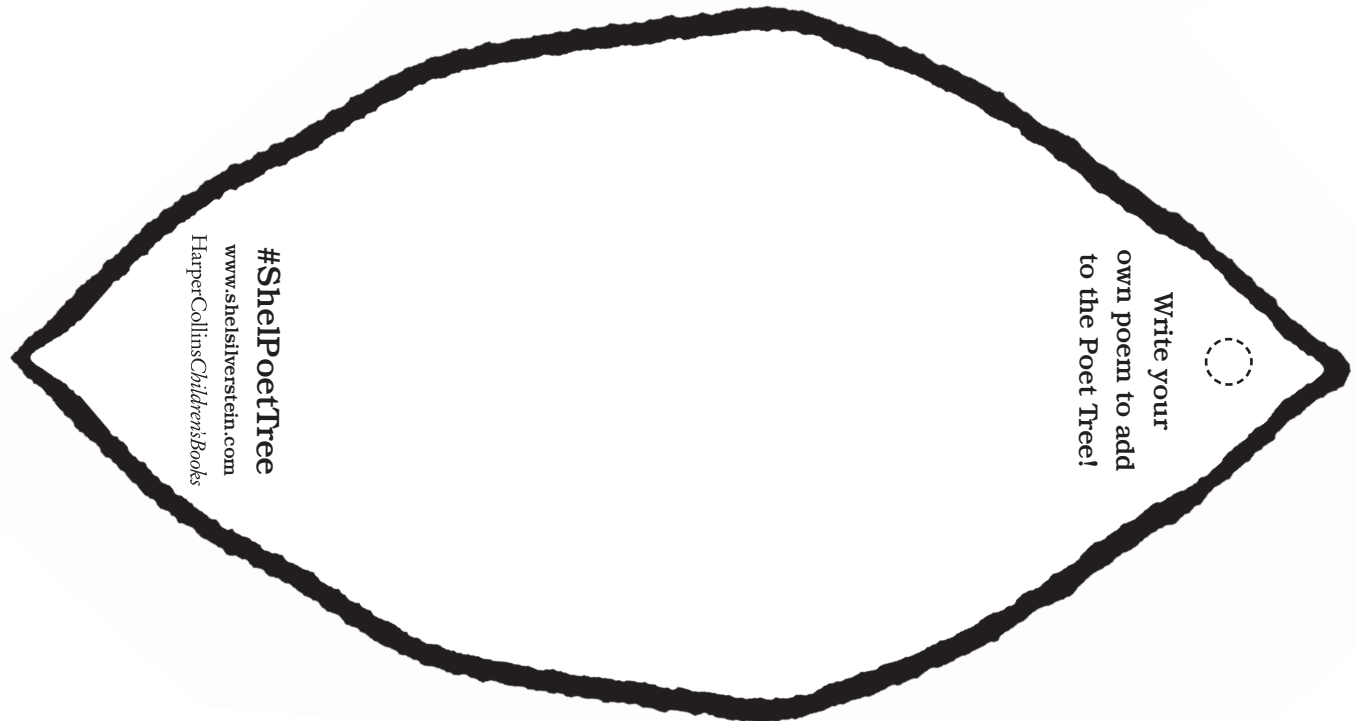
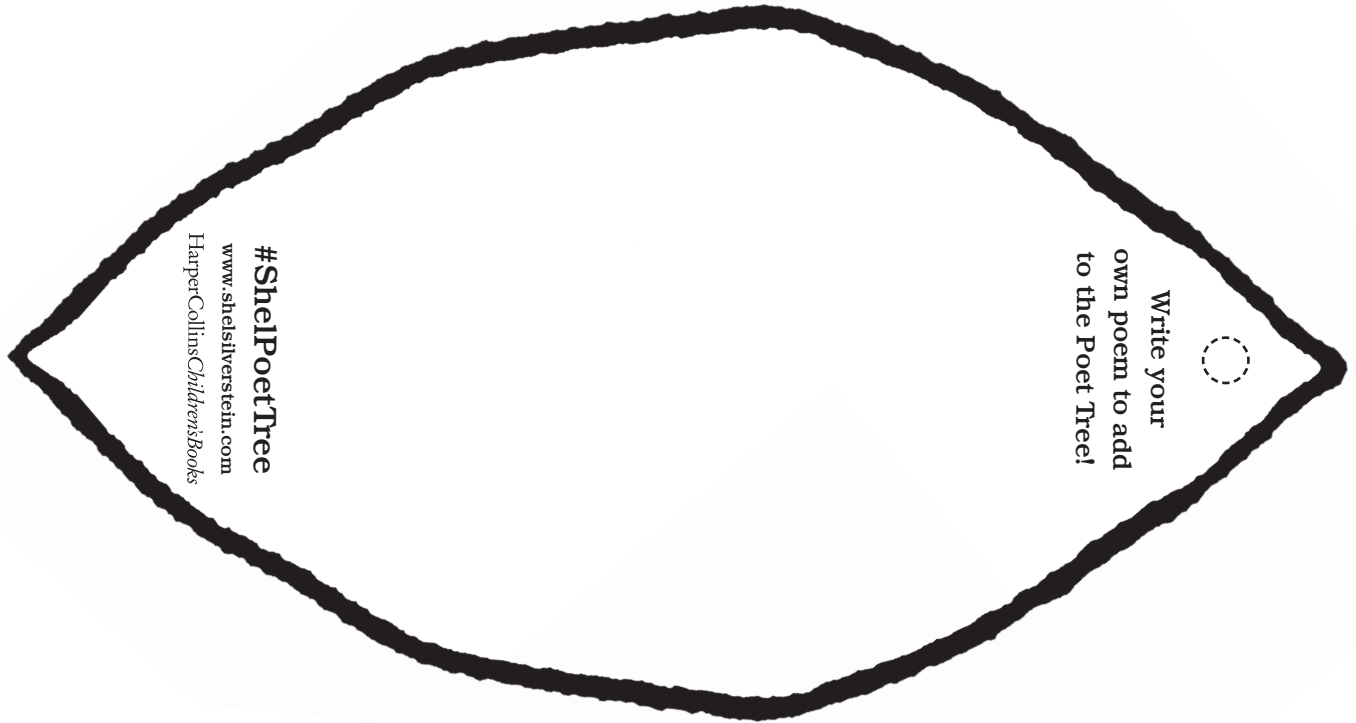
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SIGN


This means victory,
This means peace,
It also means
Two hamburgers please.



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with Shel Silverstein!

#ShelPoetTree
www.shelsilverstein.com
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WHEN I AM GONE

When I am gone what will you do?
Who will write and draw for you?
Someone smarter—someone new?
Someone better—maybe YOU!



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Come Sit Under the "Poet Tree" with Shel Silverstein!

Celebrate Poetry Month by creating a "Poet Tree" in your community. Print this set of leaves double-sided. Write a poem in the leaf below, cut it out, and tie it to the branches of a tree in your store, school, or library. Be sure to share your poem and your "Poet Tree" by using the hashtag #ShelPoetTree!

