

Exemplar Read-Aloud Poetry – “Your World.”

Johnson, Georgia Douglas. “Your World.” *Words with Wings: A Treasury of African-American Poetry and Art*. Selected by Belinda Rochelle. New York: HarperCollins, 2001. (1918)

Your world is as big as you make it.
I know, for I used to abide
In the narrowest nest in a corner,
My wings pressing close to my side.

But I sighted the distant horizon
Where the skyline encircled the sea
And I throbbed with a burning desire
To travel this immensity.

I battered the cordons around me
And cradled my wings on the breeze,
Then soared to the uttermost reaches
With rapture, with power, with ease!