

# “clothesline” Word Exploration

**Directions:** Circle the words or phrase that you are going to explore. Then write or draw words or phrases that you might use instead of the ones you circled in the poem. They evoke similar or different feelings and images from the words in the poem.

## **clothesline** By Ralph Fletcher

There’s an orange towel and  
two white t-shirts pinned  
at the waist all trying to  
dry themselves in the  
breeze.

Filled with air the two t-shirts  
puff up with sudden bodies  
real and muscular which  
vanish when the wind  
dies.

The wind lifts the towel until  
it lies horizontal as if trying  
to screw up the nerve  
to let go and  
fly

**Words & phrases that you might use instead of the ones you circled in the poem:**

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