

# "Where I'm From" Poem Template

Inspired by "Where I'm From" by George Ella Lyon

I am from \_\_\_\_\_ (a specific ordinary item)  
From \_\_\_\_\_ (product name) and \_\_\_\_\_ (another product name)  
I am from the \_\_\_\_\_ (description of your home)  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (two adjectives that describe the above home description)  
It \_\_\_\_\_ (tasted like-, sounded like-, looked like-, felt like-, smelled like- choose one and expand)  
I am from the \_\_\_\_\_ (plant, flower, natural item)  
The \_\_\_\_\_ (another plant, flower or natural item)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (description of the above natural item)

I'm from the \_\_\_\_\_ (a family tradition) and \_\_\_\_\_ (family trait)  
From \_\_\_\_\_ (name of a family member) and \_\_\_\_\_ (name of a family member)  
I'm from the \_\_\_\_\_ (description of family tendency) and  
\_\_\_\_\_ (another family tendency)  
From \_\_\_\_\_ (something you were told as a child) and  
\_\_\_\_\_ (another thing you were told as a child)  
I'm from \_\_\_\_\_ (representation of family beliefs)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (something that describes that belief).

I'm from \_\_\_\_\_ (place of birth) and \_\_\_\_\_ (family ancestry, nationality)  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (two food items that represent your ancestry)  
From \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (specific family story with a detail about a specific person)  
The \_\_\_\_\_ (another detail of another family member)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (location of mementos or family photos and the container in which they are stored, including a brief description of them)  
I am from \_\_\_\_\_ (a general statement with details about who you are or where you are from)

## “I’m From” Idea Gathering

Objects around your home	Sayings in your family
Smells that remind you of home	Songs/stories your family sings/tells
Close family members	Special foods you like or eat with family
People and places in your neighborhood	Lands and places your family is from
Important events in your life	Things you like to do with your time
Where do you keep your “memories” or treasures?	Things you have done that make you proud.

# Where I'm From

*By George Ella Lyon*

I am from clothespins,  
from Clorox and carbon-tetrachloride.  
I am from the dirt under the back porch.  
(Black, glistening  
it tasted like beets.)  
I am from the forsythia bush,  
the Dutch elm  
whose long gone limbs I remember  
as if they were my own.

I am from fudge and eyeglasses,  
from Imogene and Alafair.  
I'm from the know-it-alls  
and the pass-it-ons,  
from perk up and pipe down.  
I'm from He restoreth my soul  
with cottonball lamb  
and ten verses I can say myself.

I'm from Artemus and Billie's Branch,  
fried corn and strong coffee.  
From the finger my grandfather lost  
to the auger  
the eye my father shut to keep his sight.

Under my bed was a dress box  
spilling old pictures.  
a sift of lost faces  
to drift beneath my dreams.  
I am from those moments --  
snapped before I budded --  
leaf-fall from the family tree.

### "Where I'm From" Poem Template

I am from the nuts and bolts in my garage  
From the redline race fuel and wrench's on the floor  
I am from the oil spill underneath the '77, in which always smelled of fuel and tracked gas into the house.  
I am from Lake Mead in which I spent summer days  
The olive tree in which I broke my arm falling from the top cause of a dare  
Whose long gone limbs I remember  
As if they were my own  
Im from the Corn bread and yelling uncles and grandmas  
From Aunt Brits and Uncle D's yelling  
Im from the yelling at the Tv screen on gamedays and getting in family arguments  
From "Ready to Ride?!" and "Get off that Bike"  
I'm from epic noises that Transformers make  
And memorizing "I want to be a DirtBike Rider"  
I am from Crazy Uncle Joe who got shot and Scary Aunt Beth branch,  
Fudge brownies and Monster on race day  
From dad always starting fights and dogs dying  
To the back seat of the '77 that folds up and can getaway from anything  
This has made the me the person I am