

Middle School

Middle school is like **Monopoly**,
easy enough to play
hard to win
and the stupid game takes forever

Middle school is its own special kind of ecosystem
a survival of the fittest
where you are constantly under a **microscope**
poked and prodded and dissected
every **phobia** and flaw magnified

Middle school is the English teacher
pointing out every **misspelled** word with a bright red Sharpie
and **mispronouncing** your name for an entire year

Middle school is one continuous **miscarriage** of justice

Middle school is a **polygon**
with too many sides and angles to consider

Middle school is airpods hidden in hoodies
Stanley **thermoses** scattered across classrooms
One long **monochromatic** hallway
pedestrians weaving their way through traffic
just praying not to get hit

Middle school is a never-ending game of **telephone**
Where gossip is spread by insecure **pyromaniacs**
who don't care if everyone gets burned

Middle school is wishing so badly you could **teleport**
To somewhere, anywhere
but here

Middle school is not the 100- or 200-**meter** dash but the grueling 400
one full lap that pushes the boundary between possible and impossible
between the sane and insane
a race that you vow to never run again