

Course: John Clare, Manchester Central Library, June/July 2019

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Contributions from Pam Schwarz

Freewriting on the prompt, 'characteristics of water creature'.

The water snail was slimy, one leg thing, antennae.

The water snail had a one leg thing which it contracted and relaxed in a ripple motion so it will move. It has to move on a surface. I remember it moving up the sides of the dis-used sink we kept it in.

The water snail was living in the tepid water in the dis-used sink. I think we got it from the Furnace Pond.

The water snail didn't smell to us. It was slimy to touch. But the strangest thing was that it came from nowhere. I swear the Furnace Pond water was clear.

What does the water snail eat?

The water snail pulls back into its shell if you try to touch it. It just clings to the side of the sink. All you can see is shells. Maybe in lines and lines.

First draft poem

I came from no-where, I was just in the air or the clear water from the Furnace Pond.

I lived in air, water or soil near to my childhood home place.

I have to move on a surface, I cannot fly

I have a one-leg thing which can contract or relax in a ripple motion.

It I am prodded I will go back into my shell. I'll line up with the others, resting too. Waiting.