Pencil: Ticonderoga

The typical Ticonderoga;
Yellow and green in nature; hexagonal in stature, wood in structure;
The people's number one choice, universally used.

Although not universally appreciated;
They write our letters and do our math;
They jot down notes when there's little time to spare.

We sacrifice their lives every day;
Whether for our expression or overdue math homework.

However, no matter the use, the pencil is such a great tool;
So reliable and easy to use, with no mechanics or fancy plastic;
Just a trustworthy, yellow-painted marvel.

I myself, like so many others, don't appreciate the pencil enough;
We take them for granted and use them so much.

Yet most times we lose them, not giving enough care;
They are misplaced or forgotten without a thought.

We drop them to the floor, leave them in a bag, or break them in half;
They roll under a bench to rest against the trim;
And remain untouched, unseen, for almost a year.

We find ourselves searching for the tool;
And they always reappear;
But do we really deserve them?

Think about the treatment you give things,
Whether small or large, there is value in all.

Give your pencil some care.

ANDREW BARRETT
Oxbow High School- 10th Grade
Bradford, VT