



Haiku

Haiku poetry was first written by the Japanese. The haiku is a three-line, seventeen syllable, unrhymed poem, which usually describes nature. This form of poetry describes a moment of beauty that arouses feelings and thoughts.

There are some students, who for one reason or another, may not be able to handle the exact 17 syllables of traditional haiku, but are able to handle a simplified pattern.

Example:

Where it takes place
What is taking place
When it happens

In the flower bed
the bee flits about the flowers
on a summer's day



A traditional haiku consists of seventeen syllables organized into three lines.

Example:

Line One: 5 syllables
Line Two: 7 syllables
Line Three: 5 syllables

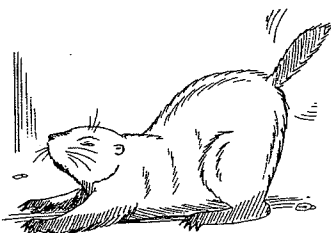
In the quaint garden
the lovely daffodils swayed
in the gentle breeze



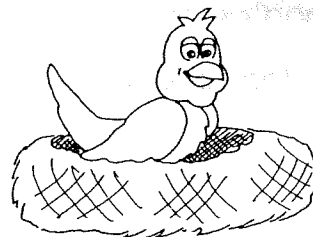
Share the following haiku with your class. Record them on the chalkboard, chart paper or an overhead. Read and clap the rhythm of each one. Discuss the feeling it emits.

Sample Haiku

In a deep, dark hole
a ground hog stretches and stirs
in February



On a nest up high
Mother Robin sits so still
in the early spring.





Sample Haiku

On a tall, oak tree the green leaves fluttered softly as the breeze passed through.	In the rainforest the hairy, green sloth is seen hanging upside down.
On the cold, hard ground snowflakes floated softly down one day in winter.	Above the stable the sparkling star shone brightly showing us the way.
On the tin rooftop raindrops hammered so loudly during a summer's day.	Growing in Flanders see the bright, blood-red poppies between the crosses.
In the dark, gray sky the lightning flashed so brightly lighting the dark night.	In a dark forest there stood a tall sequoia serenely quiet.
Out in the garden the fat snowman stood proudly in the warm bright sun.	In the hot desert the camel works very hard carrying big loads.
In the blue, clear sky fluffy clouds floated around while I was playing	In the jungle deep colorful lovebirds sit high lovingly cooing.
Beside the pond's edge stood a silent doe drinking at the dusk of day.	On the river's ice the skaters glide quickly one cold winter's day.

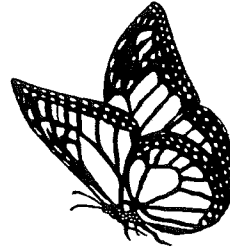


Writing a 'Where, What, When' Haiku

Follow the steps below.

Step 1: Look at the picture of the butterfly.

Think about butterflies.
Where do you see them?
What are they like?
When do you see them?



Step 2: Brainstorm and write a list of phrases that describe where the butterfly may be

Step 3: Brainstorm and write a list of phrases that describe what is happening.

Step 4: Brainstorm and write a list of phrases that tell when it happened.

Step 5: Choose a phrase from each of your lists to complete a main idea or thought. Write your phrases below. Illustrate your haiku.

