

## Write a Haiku!

Given its short form and simplicity, Haiku is a literary form that allows students to engage with literacy concepts as well as produce a stunning piece of creative work.

**Literacy goal:** Explore, understand, and engage with the concepts of syllables, metaphors, similes, formal, and informal grammar rules.

The lesson should be taught over two to three sessions, so the student has the time to revisit the concepts that are introduced.

### 1. Discussion of Haiku – history, famous poets, rules and examples

- review the structural rules of Haiku (17 syllables arranged in three lines of 5-7-5)
- explore the concepts of syllables, similes, and metaphors
- traditional seasonal themes of Haiku
- read and discuss examples of Haiku; examples that reference traditional seasonal themes as well as those that break away from seasonal themes

### 2. Start a draft of student's Haiku

- brainstorm a list of words about the student's topic
- write the number of syllables next to each word
- write a draft using the words generated (students don't have to only use the words that they generated)
- it's ok to break the syllable rule if necessary:)
- be creative!

### 3. Revision and discussion of student's Haiku

- review and finalize; check for meaning, clarity, and imagery
- how would the Haiku read and feel if we rewrote it using formal grammar rules?
- the joy of the creative process
- the student writes a summary of what he/she wanted to express through their Haiku
- explore sharing options