POETRY

TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of poetry are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: POET, STEVENSON, CLASSIC, GARDEN, VERSES, SHADOW, WORDS, ADVENTURE, BOOK, HAPPENINGS, RHYMES, READ, ARRANGE, PAGE, EXPERIENCE, WRITE, MUSIC, VOICE, HEARD, KIDS, POEMS.

DO YOU KNOW A POEM BY HEART?

W V H A P P E N I N G S L L G
R O H E C I O V S E M Y H R A
A E R D R A E H S E S R E V R
R K A D E G A P W O D A H S D
R I K D S P O E T E T I R W E
A D C L A S S I C V K O O B N
N S W K K E C N E I R E P X E
G M U S I C E R U T N E V D A
E S M E O P N O S N E V E T S
Tongue Twister Poetry

Tongue Twister poetry is a silly statement in which all words begin with the same sound. The statement should be as long as possible.

Many mummies munch much mush.
Shepherds shear seven shivering shy sheep.

*Chris Hupp*

Five flying flocks of fleas flew over flapping flags.
Five flapping flags flying up far.
Five flapping flocks of fleas landed on five flying flags.
Five flying flocks of fleas fled from the five flapping flags.

*Scott Reames*
Green Eggs and Ham

am eat green and eggs ham
Rhyming Words
Green Eggs and Ham

Am
There
Box
Mouse

Fox  Sam
House  Where
Haiku

1. Japanese haiku
2. Captures a moment in time
3. Snapshot memory
4. Haiku has no rhyme—5
5. But has a special structure—7
6. To create within—5
7. Haiku has three lines—5
8. With seventeen syllables—7
9. In five, seven, five—5
10. When you write haiku—5
11. Remember, freeze a moment,—7
12. Let it live in words—5

Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry, usually about nature. The first line has five syllables, the second line has seven syllables, and the third line has five. Count the syllables in the haiku lines above.

Here are some examples of haiku:

Wind, gently blowing
Up, around, and through the trees,
Plays tag with my kite

Ocean waves roll in,
Foam against the sandy shore,
Then slide back to sea
Haiku Poetry

Haiku has three non-rhyming lines. The first line has five syllables, the second line has seven syllables, and third line has five syllables.

My ship floats the sea
I'll drift to some distant place
Better get started!

Justin Warwick

Brisk spring and fall air
New colors glance in my hair
As I watch in awe.

Tracie Fowler

Sweet smells fill the air
Flowers bloom everywhere
Babes born here and there

Ashley Daniel

The Pattern

Brisk spring and fall air [5 syllables]
New colors glance in my hair [7 Syllables]
As I watch in awe. [5 Syllables]

Suggestions:
Haiku is Japanese poetry. It was invented many centuries ago. It very often describes the "feeling" in weather, most often Springtime. Haiku can be written about any subject you like, but the form lends itself to thought about a single topic. Try to think beautiful or very sad or very lonely, or lovely or brilliant or delightful thoughts about a topic.
CRITERIA FOR HAIKU POETRY

- Name appears on student paper
- The selected words create a mood or image of the subject
- Poem is in proper form with correct number of syllables
- Correct use of capitals and ending punctuation [Written and Oral English Language Conventions 1.4 punctuation) and 1.6 (capitalization)]
- Penmanship is neat and legible to the reader [Writing Strategies 1.2]
RUBRIC FOR HAIKU

HAIKU IS JAPANESE POETRY THAT EXPRESSES THE POET’S THOUGHTS ON A SPECIFIC SUBJECT (USUALLY SOMETHING IN NATURE). LINES ONE AND THREE HAVE FIVE SYLLABLES; LINE TWO HAS SEVEN SYLLABLES. HAIKUS MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE RHYME ENDINGS. TRY TO USE CREATIVE THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS ON THE TOPIC YOU CHOOSE TO WRITE ABOUT.

SAMPLE HAIKU

Seagull at the beach,  
soaring high above the sand,  
makes a hungry sound.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The student has demonstrated a clever way of describing the subject. All format criteria have been precisely followed. The student clearly understands the poetic form.</td>
<td>The student has adequately described the subject. The sample format has been followed. There is an impression that the student understands the poetic form.</td>
<td>The student has attempted to fulfill the assignment, but the result is incomplete. The sample format has minimally been followed. There is a weak sense of the poetic form.</td>
<td>The writing does not meet the criteria for haiku. It is unclear what the student is writing about. There is a gross lack of details and little to no sense of the poetic form.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HAIKU POETRY by __________________________
Mr. Alpert Grade 2

*LA WRITING 1.0: Students write clear and coherent sentences that develop an idea.*

Directions: Write a haiku on the subject of your choice and add an illustration that helps the reader understand your thoughts. Use words that make images (pictures) in your mind.

TITLE: __________________________

__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
Haikus

By Christopher, 8
Foothill Ranch Elementary, Foothill Ranch

Birds fly through the sky
Soaring through the tallest trees
Looking for their nests.

Hermit crabs dig holes
Tunneling through the hot sand
Seeking bigger shells.

Lying in the shade
Under the colorful leaves
I am so happy.
Pantoum

(Malaysia)

Similar to Haiku from Japan

Found Poetry

After reading, have each student write down 5 sentences or phrases they like or mean something to them.

Next, number 1-16 on a lined piece of paper.

Now, write down one of their chosen sentences or phrases on each of the first 4 lines.

Line 5  -  Repeat line 2

Line 6  -  New sentence or phrase

Line 7  -  Repeat line 4

Line 8  -  New

Line 9  -  Repeat line 5

Line 10 -  New

Line 11 -  Repeat line 6

Line 12 -  New

Line 13 -  Repeat line 1

Line 14 -  Repeat line 10

Line 15 -  Repeat line 11

Line 16 -  Repeat line 3

Read it to yourself and give your poem a title.

Volunteers can now share reading their poems aloud to the class.
CINQUAIN
(Cinco - five lines)

Blue Paper        Cinquain
Orange Paper      Five Lines
Green Paper       Writing, Counting, Thinking
Red Paper         All about the subject
Blue Paper        Poem

1. Subject noun
2. 2 adjectives that describe subject noun
3. 3 verbs - what the subject does
4. 4 word sentence about the subject noun
5. Synonym for the subject noun

Assign the subject noun. Something the class has been studying.

Team teach - teams get strips with color code - students fill in according to color.

Example - Blue - synonym, Green - verb, Orange - adjectives, etc.
HAPPY

By Benjamin, 8
Harbor Day School
Corona del Mar

Happy in the trees
Are 16 little bees.
Popping cherries in their mouths,
Packing before they leave,
Yodeling in the breeze.
A Diamante

By Maggie
Stelle Middle School
Calabasas

Owl
silent, swift
spying, flying, listening
predator, hunter, prey, food
hiding running squeaking
small nervous
Mouse
HELP !!

Can anybody tell me, please, a bit about the thing with seven legs and furry knees, four noses and a wing?

Oh what has prickles on its chin, what’s yellow, green and blue, and what has soft and slimy skin? Oh tell me, tell me, do.

And tell me, what has polka dots on every other ear, what ties its tail in twenty knots, what weeps a purple tear.

Oh what is growling long and low and please, has it been fed? I think I’d really better know, it’s sitting on my head.
RAISING YOUR HAND

When you want to show
you understand,
don’t call out,
just raise your hand.

Roses are red.
Lettuce is green.
If you raise your hand,
it will be seen.
Can you finish this rhyme?

February is the month for candy hearts, flowers and valentines. Finish this rhyme for someone special in your life. Roses are red, violets are blue... Tell us why it is for, and why you wrote it.

I wrote this for Chase because she is a really good friend.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
But you are the greatest friend
I ever knew.

By Sophie, 8
Clover Avenue Elementary
Los Angeles

I wrote this poem for my mother because it's the truth and I love her.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
My eyes shine
When I see you.

By Dorry, 9
El Rodeo Elementary
Beverly Hills

I wrote this for my parents because lately I've been harsh on them.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Chocolate is sweet
And so are you.

By Kajak, II
Webster Middle School
Los Angeles

I'm writing this for my pen pal whom I can't wait to meet.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
I can't wait
To meet you.

By Tiffany, 8
Welby Way Magnet
West Hills

To Stephanie, my best friend.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
My best friend is special
And that person is you.

By Ellen, 9
Los Feliz Elementary
Los Angeles

I wrote this for my mom because she is my hero and she is the best.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Sugar is sweet
And so are you.

By Henry, 9
Mark Keppel Elementary
The NCTE Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee: Sylvia M. Vardell, Peggy Oxley, Georgia Heard, Jan Kristo, Gail Wesson Spivey, Janet Wong, and Dan Woolsey

The NCTE Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee has the responsibility for selecting the recipient of the award for the most outstanding children’s poet every three years. We were thrilled to be able to choose Nikki Grimes as the 2006 recipient of this award. However, the committee is also charged with “exploring ways to acquaint teachers and children with poetry.” One way of doing that is to highlight the wonderful poetry being published for children each year, calling attention to new titles and new poets that children are sure to enjoy. Thus, our committee decided to highlight some of the best poetry books published during our committee’s three-year tenure, 2003–2006. What follows is our selection of the 10 best poetry books published during each of those three years, based on the criteria for excellence for the award itself: literary merit, imagination, authenticity of voice, evidence of a strong persona, universality and timelessness, and appeal to children.

2004

**Over in the Pink House: New Jump-Rope Rhymes**
Written by Rebecca Kai Dotlich
Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall

Thirty-two silly, warm, and happy verses, full of perfect bouncy rhythm and rhyme, provide an upbeat introduction to poetry for the very young. The topics include familiar, simple pleasures: buttered toast, homemade jam, teddy bears, and gingerbread.

**Spinning through the Universe**
Written by Helen Frost
ISBN 0-374-37159-8

Told from a variety of points of view, this novel in verse explores the lives of Mrs. William’s fifth-grade class in room 214. As the interconnected story unfolds, Frost showcases several different poetic forms, such as the sestina, sonnet, pantoum, acrostic, and haiku, with an explanation of each form included.

**Hummingbird Nest**
Written by Kristine O’Connell Gray
Illustrated by Barry Moser

These exquisite poems act as journal entries recording the birth and development of a mother hummingbird’s fledglings alongside elegant watercolor illustrations by Barry Moser. An author’s note describes how on one February morning, as her family had breakfast on the patio, a hummingbird began building its nest.

**Tai Chi Morning: Snapshots of China**
Written by Nikki Grimes
Illustrated by Ed Young

Offering “a collection of moments” experienced on a 1988 tour of China, these intensely personal and beautifully crafted poems are complemented by Ed Young’s striking impressionistic sketches. Whether offering scenes of modern city streets teeming with bicycle riders or the timeless...
image of a child helping her mother wash laundry on the Yangtze River, these evocative poems will intrigue readers of all ages and show how on this trip, “Harlem and Gansu/ ceased to be / a world apart.”

What Is Goodbye?
Written by Nikki Grimes
Illustrated by Raul Colon
Hyperion, 2004, 64 pp., ISBN 0-786-80778-4

Two younger siblings grieve the death of their older brother in alternate voices. This book helps children know “There’s no right or wrong way to feel when someone close to you dies.”

Wonderful Words: Poems about Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening
Selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins
Illustrated by Karen Barbour

Readers of this book will savor the magic of words through the selected voices of 15 diverse and outstanding poets. Bennett has created a celebration of language in its many forms.

Soft Hay Will Catch You; Poems by Young People
Compiled by Sanford Lyne
Illustrated by Julie Monks

This unique anthology showcases original poetry written by 100 young people from ages 8 to 18, compiled by visiting poet-in-the-schools, Sanford Lyne. With themes ranging from home and family, loneliness and friendship, to the search for self, the collection rings with unsentimental and authentic young voices.

Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices
Written by
Walter Dean Myers

Walter Dean Myers brings Harlem to life in these 54 poems spoken in a myriad of distinctive voices—all residents of Harlem: a live-in maid, a student, a newsstand dealer, among others. Each poem offers a story, a reflection, or a memory in verse, and captures the vibrant life of the Harlem community.

If Not for the Cat
Written by
Jack Prelutsky
Illustrated by Ted Rand

In beautiful haiku and enhanced by Rand’s charming paintings, Prelutsky has employed alliteration, consonance, and other pleasing poetic devices to describe 17 animals in winsome ways.

Creature Carnival
Written by Marilyn Singer
Illustrated by Gris Grimly

Children will delight in this collection of 33 imaginary beast poems written in cleverly rhymed couplets. There are plenty of fabled creatures in this carnival—Loch Ness Monster, Godzilla, Dragon, Minotaur, among others—to captivate and enchant every child.
2005

Poems to Dream Together/ Poemas para Sonar Juntos
Written by Francisco X. Alarcón
Illustrated by Paula Barragan

Alarcón focuses on his family and community with Spanish and English poems about dreams, goals, and imaginings. For example, one poem honors the work of César Chávez, other poems are loving portraits of his mama or grandmother; all are illustrated by Paula Barragan with vibrant colors and expressive scenes.

Fold Me a Poem
Written by Kristine O’Connell George
Illustrated by Lauren Stringer
Harcourt, 2005, 56 pp., ISBN 0-152-02501-4

From morning to night, we watch a boy fold colored papers into animals and bring them to life with words. The poems have a haiku quality and will send the reader looking for origami folding instructions.

Days to Celebrate: A Full Year of Poetry, People, Holidays, History, Fascinating Facts, and More
Selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins
Illustrated by Stephen Alcorn

This wonderful volume is a must-have for every teacher’s desk. It works as an almanac of the year, including a calendar for each month identifying celebrations, holidays, and interesting facts, a variety of poetry from a host of poets to celebrate the month, and notes about the poets.

A Kick in the Head: An Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms
Compiled by Paul B. Janeczko
Illustrated by Chris Raschka

Twenty-nine distinct poetic forms, including many not commonly taught (such as the aubade and pantoum), will inspire students to experiment with poem writing as a game. While the illustrated format makes this book accessible to young readers, the more-sophisticated forms will challenge writers of all ages.

Please Bury Me in the Library
Written by J. Patrick Lewis
Illustrated by Kyle M. Stone

This book will thrill young children and “older” book lovers alike. With his classic wit and wordplay, Lewis celebrates reading, books, and words.

Vheres: A Celebration of Outstanding Women
Written by J. Patrick Lewis
Illustrated by Mark Summer

This distinctive anthology celebrates the accomplishments of women over the past two centuries, such as Eleanor Roosevelt and Amelia Earhart, as well as more contemporary women, such as Ella Fitzgerald, Jane Goodall, and Venus and Serena Williams. Informative notes about each woman are included.
Mural on Second Avenue and Other City Poems
Written by Lilian Moore
Illustrated by Roma Karas

Lilian Moore celebrates the experiences of urban life from the perspective of a child who awakens to "the silence/ of a city/hushed/by snow" and then eventually falls asleep as "a pale moon rises/ and hopes to be/noticed." Moore's lyrical poems provide memorable images of the natural beauties and distinctive architectural features of the city landscape, where "city folk / content / to live with concrete / and cement."

A Wreath for Emmett Till
Written by Marilyn Nelson
Illustrated by Philippe Lardy

This historical account of the lynching of Emmett Till in 1955, told in a precise and formal manner (as a heroic crown of 15 sonnets), is a sophisticated and socially significant offering that deserves discussion in both language arts and history classrooms.

A Maze Me: Poems for Girls
Written by Naomi Shihab Nye
Illustrated by Terre Maher

Nye's powerful free-verse poetry celebrates girls, particularly the dreams and worries that straddle childhood and adulthood. From topics as mundane as spoting a friend in the school cafeteria to as serious as coping with anger and argument, Nye challenges readers to "feel your thinking springing up and layering inside your huge mind."

Song of the Water Boatman and Other Pond Poems
Written by Joyce Sidman
Illustrated by Beckie Prange

Enhanced with informative side-bars, black woodcut line drawings, and luminous watercolor art, these cyclic poems describe intriguing plants and creatures of nature. This collection beautifully describes pond and wetland life.

2006

Flamingos on the Roof
Written and illustrated by Calef Brown

Zany, syncopated story-poems are accompanied by crazy, cock-eyed story-paintings about all kinds of make-believe creatures. Brown invites us into his slightly askew worldview in which cats tango, dogs wear plaid, and people routinely have blue skin or blue hair. Wordplay and strong rhythms build poems that stand on their own two (or three or four) feet.

Handsprings
Written and illustrated by Douglas Florian
Greenwillow, 2006, 48 pp.,
ISBN 0-660-09280-7

A fun and up-beat collection of poems celebrating spring, complete with Douglas Florian's paintings, captures the newness, brightness, and sparkle of the season. This volume completes his popular volumes of seasonal poetry.

The Braid
Written by Helen Frost

When their family is forcibly evicted from their home on the Western Isles in the 1850s, Sarah remains in Scotland with her grandmother while Jeanne and the others board a ship bound for Canada. In dramatic narrative poems, the sisters tell their stories of love and loss, intermingled
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with praise poems that celebrate an item named in the narrative poems. The last line of each praise poem is braided with the first line of the next.

**The Friendly Four**
*Written by Eloise Greenfield*  
*Illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist*

Written in script-like, child-friendly free verse, Eloise Greenfield takes us through a summer with four friends. They act out the ups and downs of friendship in a made-up town in one child’s backyard.

**This Place I Know: Poems of Comfort**
*Selected by Georgia Heard*  
*Illustrated by 18 Illustrators*

With poetic styles and forms as varied as the voices of the individual poets (including classic poets such as Emily Dickinson and Langston Hughes as well as contemporary ones from a range of ethnic and cultural roots), and beautifully accented by artwork from notable illustrators, these poems offer compelling evidence of the healing power of poetry in a work commissioned shortly after the shattering events of 9/11.

**Wing Nuts: Screwy Haiku**
*Written by Paul B. Janeczko and J. Patrick Lewis*  
*Illustrated by Tricia Tusa*

J. Patrick Lewis and Paul Janeczko collaborate to introduce the senryu, a Japanese verse form and comic cousin of the haiku. These short, punchy poems employ wordplay, puns, and riddles that will make children giggle.

**Castles:**
**Old Stone Poems**
*Written by J. Patrick Lewis and Rebecca Kai Dotlich*  
*Illustrated by Dan Burr*

Dotlich and Lewis combine their poetic talents to describe 16 castles ranging from Bodian (England, c. 1066) to Hearst (California, 1919). Aided by Burr’s rich paintings, they bring life to each intriguing edifice.

**Once upon a Tomb:**
**A Collection of Gravely Humorous Verses**
*Written by J. Patrick Lewis*  
*Illustrated by Simon Bartram*

This delightful pun-filled collection of 22 epitaphs and other clever verses will give the most reluctant and weary of readers a welcome break, as well as practical, useful advice for living: “Here is a lesson / for Larry LeGow: / NEVER SIT UNDER / A HEREFORD COW.”

**Butterfly Eyes and Other Secrets of the Meadow**
*Written by Joyce Sidman*  
*Illustrated by Beth Krommes*

Pairs of poetry riddles are followed by the answers on two pages of scientific facts in this beautifully executed poetry book. Outstanding scratchboard illustrations perfectly complement the book’s exceptional format.
Tour America: A Journey through Poems and Art
Written by Diane Siebert
Illustrated by Stephen T. Johnson

Diane Siebert takes us on a tour of the United States in 26 beautifully crafted poems describing the poet's favorite sites, from the Golden Gate Bridge and Niagara Falls to surprising choices such as Lucy the Elephant in Margate, NJ, or the gargoyle in New York City.

Sylvia M. Vardell, committee co-chair, is professor in the School of Library and Information Studies at Texas Woman's University, Denton; Peggy Oelsley, committee co-chair, is a second-grade teacher at St. Paul School in Westerville, OH; Georgia Heard is a poet in Palm Beach Gardens, FL; Jan Kristo is professor in the College of Education and Human Development, University of Maine, Orono; Gail Wesson Smythe is a librarian at PS 198 in Brooklyn, NY; Janet Wong is a poet in Hopewell, NJ; Dan Woolsey is professor of education at Houghton College in Houghton, NY.

JANE ADDAMS CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Since 1953, the Jane Addams Children's Book Award annually acknowledges books published in the U.S. during the previous year. Books chosen effectively address themes or topics that promote peace, justice, world community, and/or equality of the sexes and all races. The books also must meet conventional standards of literary and artistic excellence. Winners of the 2007 Jane Addams Children's Book Awards were announced recently by the Jane Addams Peace Association.

A Place Where Sunflowers Grow, written by Amy-Lee Tai, illustrated by Felicia Hoshino and published by Children's Book Press is the winner in the Books for Younger Children category.

Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata and published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, is the winner in the Books for Older Children category.

Both books draw on personal family history to create stories about Japanese-American girls living in internment camps in the United States during World War II.

Two books have won honors in the Books for Younger Children category:


Two books have won honors in the Books for Older Children category:


For additional information about the Jane Addams Children's Book Awards and a complete list of books honored since 1953, see www.janeaddamspeace.org.

557