

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| THEME: | Creek Habitat and Salmon Enhancement |
| SCOPE & SEQUENCE UNIT: | Inspired by Nature |
| OBJECTIVE: | Be in the presence of the creek |
| ACTIVITY 1.: | Write haiku/poetry |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Notes: | Outside |
| Teacher Prep.: | In class, before going out, share some haiku with the students. |
| Time: | In class sharing of haiku ~ 10 minutes; outside 15 minutes, plus travel time |

Skills:

- ♦ Writing & oral language
- ♦ Creative (& critical) thinking

Objectives:

- ♦ Make a personal connection with nature

Background Information:

Writing poetry connects us with our inner being, our unique and personal self. It is a whole person connection, connecting how we feel and sense with how we express ourselves. Haiku was used as an example of a poetry form but we did not impose on students to adhere to the formal haiku structure. Our focus was to encourage poetic descriptions. Writing poetry was often coupled with another activity, such as play, or drawings.

Vocabulary:

Haiku: an ancient form of poetry that originated in Japan; 3 lines, with 5 – 7 – 5 syllables for each of the 3 lines respectively; rhyme is not present; focus is often nature.

Materials:

Clipboard, paper, pencil, & eraser with each student; teacher with pencil sharpener and spare pencils.

Introductory Discussion:

Haiku are most often about nature or the changing of the seasons. That makes haiku an apt poetry form for us to use, to write about how we feel, what we sense, what we notice, when we are out in nature by the creek. To write your poems find a quiet place that calls to you and sit down there. Take a few moments to settle in with yourself at your spot, and when you are ready, create 3 poems, short like a haiku. Remember that your quiet spot needs to be within view of the teacher.

Reflection Discussion:

Gather as a class in a circle and ask students to share their poems. Ask other students to offer one thing they like about the poem they heard.

Student Page:

Nature Poems

Resources:

Buzzle

<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/haiku-examples-of-haiku-poems.html>

history & structure of haiku, examples of haiku poems of nature

Giggle Poetry

<http://www.gigglepoetry.com/poetryclass/Haiku.html>

making haiku writing fun for young students

Haiku4kids

<http://haiku4kids.blogspot.ca/>

Taking it Further:

See: River of Words ® K-12 educator's Guide, Watershed Explorer™ Curriculum

www.riverofwords.org

excellent site with tips for teaching poetry, science and arts connection, sense of place, social studies

Name: _____

Date: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Nature Poems

Exemplar:

Poems by the creek:

I am still among nature
the wind is whispering
while leaves fall.

Lina, 10 years old

The rushing water
meeting my ear
its trying to tell me something,
but I cannot hear.

Finn, 10 years old

Ferns watch on the bank
Looking at the creek
Make its way down the
pipe.

Ty, 10 years old

Trees rise
to the sky,
the creek falls
to the ocean

Max. 10 years old

The glowing sun
breaks through a cold-hearted gray sky
casting a golden reflection
on a dripping forest
and a gurgling creek.

Madeline, 10 years old