

Are you looking for something to do to keep your brain active and engaged? We're here to help with Science at Home! You can conduct these fun science experiments using commonly found items. You can also visit us at the Museum's [Science at Home](#) page for additional resources.

Nature Haiku



Haiku is an ancient Japanese form of poetry comprised of three lines with, in English writing, a five-syllable, seven-syllable, five-syllable line structure. Haiku poems are typically on topics easily identified by readers and often have a seasonal reference. In classic Haiku poetry, the lines do not rhyme. Haiku is the perfect way to write concisely and objectively about what you see in nature and the world around you.

There are many great Haiku poets that have been published, but when you get the chance, please look at some by the four masters: Matsuo Basho, Yosa Buson, Kobayashi Issa, or Masaoka Shiki.

Materials:

Paper
Pen or pencil
Patience for observation

Instructions:

1. Go outside and find a safe place to sit for a little while. Look around and think about what you see or hear. The sway of a tree. A squirrel digging to bury nuts. Birds in a birdbath. Rocks on a path. The wind through the leaves.
2. Write down some words or phrases that describe what you noticed.
3. After you have a list of words or phrases, try to find the one that fits into the five-seven-five-syllable structure. (*You can count the syllables out on your fingers or tap them out with your pencil if it helps.*)

Examples:

(5) Today, hard strong wind

• • • • •

(7) Bringing with it a cold rain

• • • • •

(5) Driving on the panes

• • • • •

(5) I jump with green legs

• • • • •

(7) Make a rasping sound when scared

• • • • •

(5) Hide in the tall grass

• • • • •

Having Fun?

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