



# Haiku Activities

## Writing prompt

### Write Your Own Haiku

A Haiku is a Japanese poetic form that follows these rules:

It has three lines.

Line 1 has 5 syllables

Line 2 has 7 syllables

Line 3 has 5 syllables

Its lines don't rhyme.

It includes a **kireji**, or word that **emphasizes an action**.

It includes a **kigo**, a seasonal reference.

An old Silent Pond

A frog jumps into the pond,

Splash! Silence again.

**Step 1:** Choose your topic — What do you see outside in the spring? Pull your inspiration for your haiku from the blossoming cherry trees and the sounds and sights around you.

**Step 2:** Use the rules of the form to write your haiku line by line.

**Step 3:** Share your haiku with us by posting on social media and tagging @PlanetWordDC or #PlanetWord.



# Haiku Activities

Read these haikus to learn their format and flow.

## “Silent Pond”

by Matsuo Basho

An old Silent Pond...  
A frog jumps into the pond,  
Splash! Silence again.

## “Haiku for Planet Word”

by Ann Friedman, Planet Word founder

Spinning, unpeopled  
gravity misshapes your orbit  
but dreams are wait-less..

## “The Pink Summer Sphere”

by Suh Joon Kim

The chill, worming in  
Shock, pleasure, bursting within  
Summer tongue awakes





# Haiku Activities

Color this haiku from the Planet Word Poetry Nook!

Haiku by Kobayashi Issa  
Japanese to English translation  
by Robert Hass

The snow is melting  
and the village is flooded  
with children.

