



Poetry Detective

The Case of Haiku's Missing Parts



"I'm really glad that Iris sent me this text. I know she's thinking about me and wants to give me something fun to do." 📱

On his clipboard Lalo printed these clues to help him solve the mystery—

1. The first and last lines of the poem are the same length
2. The middle line of the poem is longer.
3. The poem is about a season of the year.
4. **When I read the poem, I can see the apple and hear the wind.** 📱

Then Lalo watched the video to discover facts that made sense of his notes.

You can watch, too.

<http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=63602&CategoryID=3374>

After Watching the Video

Lalo wrote "Mystery Solved!" on his clipboard. He wrote a summary of the case. Oops, he left out some of the words. With your family, fill in the missing information.

The kind of poem is a _____. It has five syllables (beats) in the _____ line, seven syllables in the _____ line, five syllables in the last line. Haiku is often about the season of the year. Iris' haiku was about the season of autumn or _____. Haiku invites us to use our senses – see, hear, feel (touch), smell, taste. Iris' haiku made me _____ the apple and _____ the wind.

Long ago in Japan the poet (a person who writes poems) Matsuo Kinsaku wrote the first haiku. He taught others how to write this kind of poetry that does not rhyme. One of Matsuo's students brought him a gift of Basho trees which are banana trees. Matsuo liked the trees so much that from then on he used Basho instead of Kinsaku as his last name!





Poetry Detective

The Case of Haiku's Missing Parts



Now that you know the beats (syllables) a haiku has in each of its three lines, see if your family can clap them out in this haiku by Basho:

Swallow in the dark
spare my little buzzing friends
among the flowers

Applause for you! YOU DID IT!

Consider these questions

- What season of the year did Basho choose?
- Which senses did he use?

SUPER!

Now, you're ready to write a family haiku together

If you write one, we'd love to receive it. Please send to marianne@kidsbridgecenter.org