Poetry JAM! Let's Write a Cinquain!

Grade: 2nd Grade

English Language Arts

Duration: 15-30 minutes, can be repeated multiple days

Standard:
- **RL.2.4**: Describe how words and phrases (e.g., regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song
- **W.2.10**: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing.

Objective:
The student will use descriptive words to create a cinquain poem.

Resources Needed:
- Paper or Poem Journal & Pencil
- Crayons or Markers
- Video link with Kenn Nesbitt (optional) [https://www.poetry4kids.com/](https://www.poetry4kids.com/)
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9lBrHfzkrM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9lBrHfzkrM)
- Graphic organizer available at the end of the lesson (optional)

Introduction/Description:
Cinquain poems are fun and easy to write because you don't have to worry about rhyming words to write this type of poem. The length and form of the poem follows certain rules. Cinquains are just five lines long, with only a few words on each line, making them easy to write. Each line follows a certain rule that gives a creative shape to your poem.

Example:

Cinquain

Dogs
Furry, friendly
Barking, fetching, playing
Friends when you need them
Pets
### Steps: Cinquain Rules

![Cinquain Criteria](image)

**Steps:**

- Choose a word or topic to write about—what word pops into your mind? Is it a favorite food, something you do—any noun/naming word that you’d like to write about.
- Write your noun for line 1 of your poem
- Line 2: Brainstorm or think of adjectives that tell about your noun and make a list. Don’t add them to your poem until you have several to choose from. Remember: they have to be describing words.
- Brainstorm words that are --ing words that continue to tell about your word and make a list. When you’re ready, add them to line 3 of your poem.
- For line 4 you are ready to write a phrase about the word on line 1
- For line 5, brainstorm words that are a synonym or related word to the word you wrote on line 1.
- Be creative—it’s all about brainstorming and thinking of all sorts of words that would fit to go with your topic/idea.

### Finished Product:

The student will have a collection of self written poetry that could be shared and enjoyed with others. This could be an ongoing project where you and your student plan to write a cinquain of the week together in a poetry journal. April is National Poetry Month, so get to writing!

### Adaptations:

- Ask questions that encourage your student to brainstorm more and more words that go with new topics.
- Use the brainstormed words for word sorts--short vowel words, two syllable words, etc.
- Illustrate and draw pictures that go with the cinquain poems.
- Investigate other types of poems to add to your poetry journal.
Name: ___________________________ Date: ______________

Cinquain Topic: ______________________

What I Know About the Topic

Cinquain

Topic or Key Word (1 word)

Adjectives (2 words)

Action Verbs (3 words)

Sentence or Phrase (4 words)

Conclusion or Final Word (1 word)