



EXPRESS YOURSELF WITH POETRY

April is National Poetry Month—the perfect time to write a haiku. A haiku is a short poem that does not rhyme. The style was developed by Japanese poets. Haiku poetry is often inspired by nature or a beautiful moment. Follow these steps to write one of your own.

1. Think of a subject. You could go outside and write about what you see or imagine something that is special to you (like a favorite holiday or your pet). You can read examples of haiku online for inspiration.
2. Start writing. Traditional haiku poems have three lines. The first line has five syllables, the second has seven syllables, and the third has five syllables. Here is an example:

**I love spring flowers
The colors are fantastic
And they smell so good**

3. Make it your own. Your haiku can be beautiful, funny, or a simple observation. When you're done, post it where you'll see it, like over your desk or on the refrigerator.



DID YOU KNOW?
Winners at the ancient Olympic Games in Greece received wreath crowns.

Make a wreath from egg cartons

What you need

- 2 one-dozen egg cartons made out of cardboard
- Scissors
- Paint and paintbrush
- Heavyweight paper plate with a raised rim
- Hot glue gun or white glue
- Ribbon or string

Instructions

1. To make flowers, cut the 12 egg-holding cups out of each carton. Snip the cups into a variety of flower shapes. You could make some with four big pointy petals, six tiny round petals, or a sunflower shape. Use the flowers in this photo as inspiration. The more flowers you make, the more ideas you will get!
2. Cut off some of the raised dividers between the egg-holding cups. Snip these into skinny flowers with leaves. Cut almond-shaped leaves from the egg carton lid. Try shaping them so the curved edge along the side and top of the lid becomes the center fold of the leaf.
3. Paint the flowers in assorted colors. Paint the leaves green.
4. While the paint is drying, make a wreath form out of the paper plate. Cut out the flat center of the plate so that you are left with a ring made from just the raised rim of the plate.
5. Use hot glue (with an adult's help) or white glue to adhere the flowers and leaves to the paper plate wreath form. Use a ribbon or string to hang up your finished wreath.

Celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week

Whether your teacher has been running your class remotely or made changes to the classroom so you can be in school, educators have worked extra hard this year. Now you can say thank you during Teacher Appreciation Week, taking place from May 3–7. One great way to show your gratitude is to write a letter to your teacher or record a video message. Take a minute to think about what qualities make your teacher special. Maybe they're patient, good at explaining new concepts, or really funny. You could also include a few memories of class this year, like a favorite book you read, a fun math unit, or a cool social studies project. Other creative ways to say thanks: Craft a card, draw a comic strip, make a collage, or write your teacher a song.

