

POETRY PARTY



“Let’s Haiku!”

with Maine author Bette A. Stevens



*"You'll find magic wherever
you look. Sit back and relax.
All you need is a BOOK!"*
Dr. Seuss

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- **Build Brain Power**
- **Have FUN with words**
- **Create & Celebrate**

“Poetry is Powerful!”

It builds us up...

HAIKU

- ▶ Unrhymed verse form
- ▶ Often describes nature
- ▶ Made up of 3 lines
- ▶ Has 17 syllables



HAIKU

a traditional form
of Japanese poetry

consists of 3 lines

1st line = 5 syllables

— — — — —

2nd line = 7 syllables

— — — — —

3rd line = 5 syllables

— — — — —

Syllable

A **syllable** is a part
of a word that
contains the
sounds of a word.

Each syllable
usually has a vowel
in it. A **syllable** is
also called a
‘beat.’

Writer's Toolbox

✓ Dictionary/Thesaurus

BLACK CAT



Black cat waits, watches...
Stalking tricksters in their web.
Spiders are her treats!

4 Tricks for Picking the Perfect Word

- **Alliteration**
(Same beginning sounds)
- **Assonance**
(Repeating vowel sounds)
- **Consonance**
(Repeating consonant sounds)
- **Onomatopoeia**
(Word sounds like what it's named i.e. slam, splash...)

Let's Practice!

**crouched before the couch,
suddenly, cat has all night
for just one sound: mouse**

**on the windowsill's
balance beam, the cat pirouettes
as the kibble pings**

*(Selected from The Maine Coon's Haiku...
by Michael Rosen)*

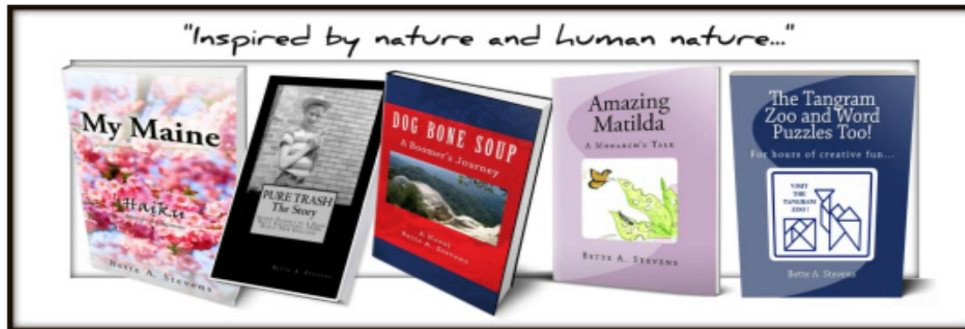
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WRITE *your* HAIKU!

- Choose a topic
- Brainstorm ideas
- Use tools (tricks) from your **Writer's Toolbox**: alliteration, consonance, assonance, onomatopoeia, dictionary, thesaurus, etc. to help you pick the perfect words. **Voilà!**

Online Writing Resources

- FREE Rhyming Dictionary <https://www.rhymer.com/>
- FREE Thesaurus/Dictionary <https://www.thesaurus.com/>
- Three Ways Poetry Improves Children's Literacy <https://kidsreadnow.org/2017/04/24/three-ways-poetry-improves-childrens-literacy/>



Poetry

Historical Fiction

Children's Books

- VISIT Maine author/poet Bette A. Stevens's Website/Blog at WWW.4writersandreaders.com

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Educators,

While teaching students (grades 4-8), I discovered that reading poetry regularly and writing poems together to share in class and display in common areas is an exciting way to get children of all ages hooked on reading and writing, all while building their self-esteem. “Let’s Haiku!” is a great way to get started. *Poetry builds memory, concentration, critical thinking and creativity in people of all ages.* I highly recommend reading and writing poetry as an essential building block in helping promote literacy at all levels. The skills children continue to develop translate into enhanced accomplishment in academic studies at all levels. Reading with the kids is **Fun**-damental. Listening to them read regularly is a sure way not only to strengthen interpersonal skills and build relationships, it’s a great way to help create a successful future for us all.



Happy reading, writing and listening,

Bette A. Stevens, Maine author

www.amazon.com/author/betteastevens