

# 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



## 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)*

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

# 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!**

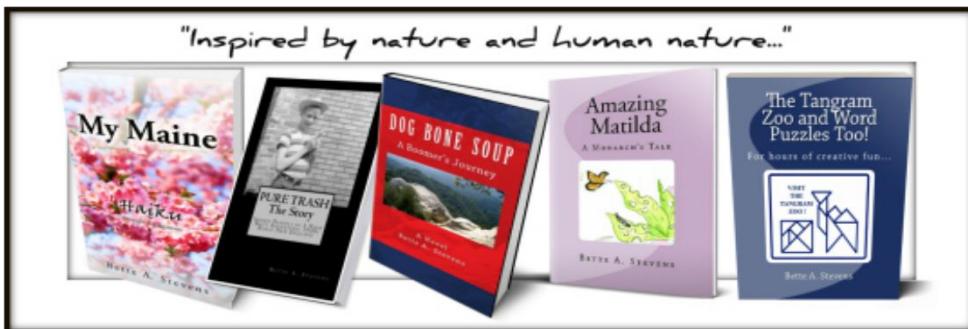
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# Online Writing Resources

- 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](http://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*

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