

**LESSON: Haiku Poems and Wordles****Grade Level: K****OBJECTIVES:**

Students will:

- Learn the meaning of the word *syllable*
- Be introduced to the Haiku form of poetry
- Use words about nature and the environment to create a Haiku
- Use words from their Haiku to assemble a Wordle

**MATERIALS:**

Examples of Haiku poems, chalkboard or flip chart, pencils, writing paper, computer (Apple if possible) to access free, online Wordle software, printer, example of printed Wordle

**PRESENTATION:**

Have the word *syllable* on the board or your flip chart. Explain that a syllable is a part of a word that is pronounced as one sound or unit. Give examples. (The word syllable has 3 syllables – syl la ble, etc.) Explain that today we're going to write a special kind of poem, called a Haiku. It is a Japanese style of poem that has only 3 lines in it, and only 17 syllables. Our poems will be about nature and how we can take care of nature and our earth. Demonstrate using an example, such as:

*Clean air and green grass  
The beautiful earth is ours  
To respect, care, love*

Count the syllables aloud with the students.

**DIRECTIONS**

1. Think of an idea for your poem and write it at the top of your paper.
2. Under the idea, write words or phrases about it.
3. Organize your words into 3 lines. The first line should have 5 syllables, the second should have 7 syllables and the third should have 5. Refer back to the example we read together, counting the syllables of each line.
4. If computers are available for students, get them into [www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net) to use the words from their Haiku poems to create a Wordle graphic, and print one for each child.  
(\*note: the Wordle link may not print on a PC, but will on a Mac)

**Time:** 90-120 minutes