

Write a salmon haiku poem!

What is a syllable?

A syllable is a single, unbroken vowel sound within a word. When you sound out a word, you are sounding out the syllables. Syllables are not vowels. They are vowel sounds. Each vowel has neighboring consonants that make up the sound. That sound is a syllable. Try putting your hand under your chin to count the number of syllables in each word. The number of times your chin drops when you're saying a word is the number of syllables it has! Try it:

Dog → ¹Dog → Dog has 1 syllable

Pencil → ¹Pen - ²cil → Pencil has 2 syllables

Banana → ¹Ba - ²na - ³na → Banana has 3 syllables

Calculator → ¹Cal - ²cu - ³la - ⁴tor → Calculator
has 4 syllables

Write out your name: _____

How many syllables does it have? _____

What is Haiku Poetry?

A haiku is a type of poem from Japan. Haikus don't usually rhyme and there is no word limit. The only rules are that 1) haiku poems must be three lines long and 2) each line has a required syllable count.

1st line: 5 syllables

2nd line: 7 syllables

3rd line: 5 syllables

Haiku poems are usually (but not always) about what you observe in nature. Think about what you see, feel, experience, or observe when you are outside.

Examples of Haiku Poetry:

1 2 3 4 5
Determined swimmers

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
leaping through the ocean waves

1 2 3 4 5
their journey goes on

1 2 3 4 5
Swimming down the stream

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Coho, Chinook, and Sockeye

1 2 3 4 5
Ocean bound to live

1 2 3 4 5
Leaves fall to the ground

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
The chum salmon bury eggs

1 2 3 4 5
Death smells like new life

1 2 3 4 5
Salmon feed the trees

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Trees fall into the river

1 2 3 4 5
Fry take shelter here

Examples of Words with Syllable Counts:

1 Syllable Words:

Egg
Fry
Parr
Smolt
The
Fish
Dead
Smell
Tree
Leaf
Leaves
Dirt
Life
Swim
Pink
Chum
Home
Bugs
Bear
Whale
Fall
Spring
Cold
Day
Long
Food
Eat
Tail
Fin
Splash

2 Syllable Words:

Salmon
Adult
Spawner
Gravel
Water
Ocean
River
Swimming
Coho
Chinook
Sockeye
Future
Journey
Hungry
Lucky
Welcome
Little
Marine
Ready
Noble
Autumn
Winter
Shallow
Fearless
Stormy
Slimy
Stinky
Smelly
Eagle
Otter

3 Syllable Words:

Alevin
Alaska
Washington
Butterfly
November
Beautiful
Fantastic
Habitat
Magnetic
Halibut
Sediment
Curious
Energy
Existence
Library
Oxygen
Pollution
Survival
Universe
Victory
Family
Animal
Dinosaur
Dangerous
Calendar
Quietly

Bonus: 4 Syllable

Word:

Superhero

Haiku Poetry Instructions:

Think about a salmon fact you have learned this year.

- What have you learned about the salmon life cycle?
- What have you learned about salmon habitats?
- What have you learned about what salmon eat?
- What have you learned about the obstacles salmon face in their survival?
- What have you learned about salmon behavior as you observed your salmon in the tank?

Think about what you see in your mind's eye when you picture salmon in the wild.

- What do you see?
- What do you hear?
- What do you smell?
- What do you feel?
- What do you taste?

Think about the salmon facts you wrote above. Then think about what you saw in your mind's eye when you pictured salmon in the wild.

Haikus are about feelings, experiences, and observations of nature. Write a haiku poem about salmon in nature.

Choose one of the facts you wrote above that interests you. Then think about how what you saw in your mind's eye relates to your chosen salmon fact. This combination of fact and observation will be your topic.

Brainstorm a list of words about your topic. Write them here:

Now write down practice haikus on the following page.

When you are happy with your poem, write it on the sheet with the salmon picture. Then color the picture and add your name.

Haiku practice:

First Line: 5 syllables

Second Line: 7 syllables

Third Line: 5 syllables

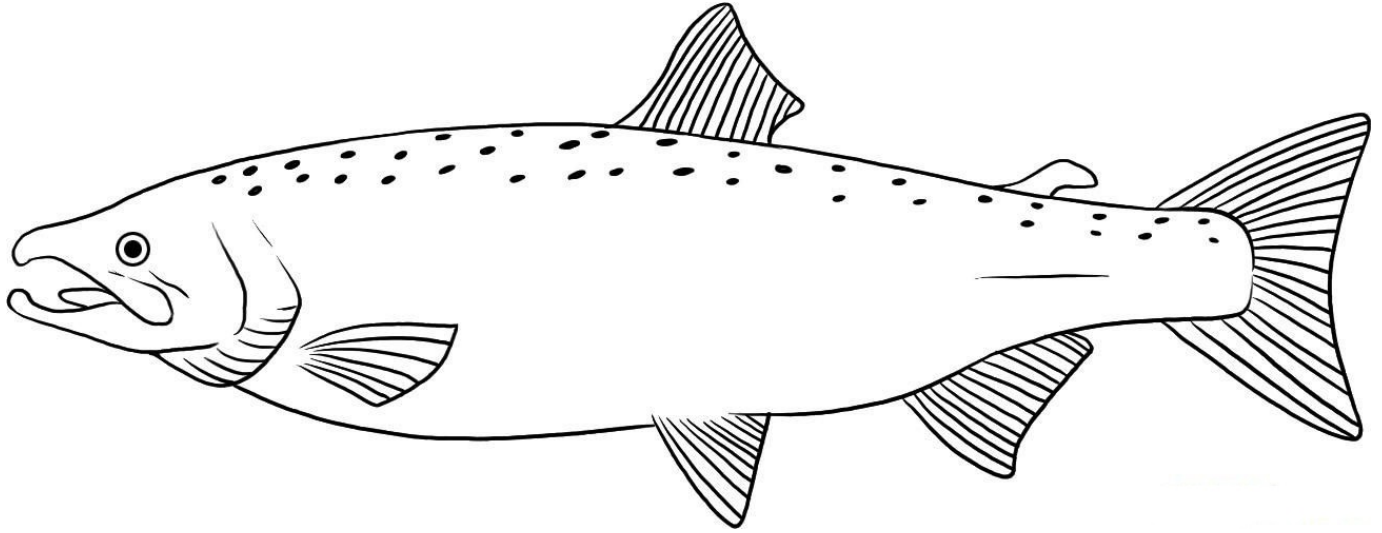
Haiku practice:

First Line: 5 syllables

Second Line: 7 syllables

Third Line: 5 syllables

Salmon Haiku Poem



By: _____
