

Haiku
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World History and Social Studies
Grades 6-8

Purpose: This lesson focuses on Japan's culture as students will be able to use their creative talents by constructing haikus and origami while at the same time listening to some traditional Japanese music.

Essential Questions:

Rational: Exposing students to literature, music and art from another culture.

Materials:

The Art of Japanese Bamboo Flute & Koto (Yamato Ensemble)
Koto Music of Japan (Various Artists - International - Far East - Japan)
Pictures of the seasons (Magazines, Art Books, Old Calendars)
Haiku background <http://www.toyomasu.com/haiku/>
Haiku worksheet (Handout C)
Art Paper
Markers, pencils, paint, rulers.

Activities:

Day One

Students will discuss the following question "What role does nature play in Japanese culture?"

This discussion will draw upon students research on Shinto's and nature in Japan.

Student will receive a brief background on haikus focusing on the syllable structure and mood of haiku poems.

After reading about the poetry form students will read as a class the haiku poetry packet. (Handout C)

Included in this packet are activities that help student become familiar with the structure of haiku.

Day Two

Students will have time to pick a picture of a season or to borrow a book about nature to help them create their haiku.

Students will create a haiku by using their picture to help create an image. Once their haiku is completed the students will put their poem on a 12 by 24 inch piece of paper and create an illustration to accompany their work.

During both days independent work Japanese music will be played in class to help student draw on their creative juices.

Assessment:

Students will receive credit for turning in their haiku packet and a completed haiku on a illustrated piece of paper.

Standards:

People in Societies Standard

Students use knowledge of perspectives, practices and products of cultural, ethnic and social groups to analyze the impact of their commonality and diversity within local, national, regional and global settings.

