

# Lockdown Poetry:

Writing Haikus



twinkl

# What is a Haiku?

A **haiku** is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. Haikus **do not** require a rhyming pattern but they **do** require a particular pattern of syllables.

俳句

Next

Do you know what a syllable is?

Next



# What is a Haiku?

**Syllables** are the separate beats/parts of words.  
Can you work out how many syllables are in these words?  
Clap them out as you say them if it helps.

Next

butterfly

The word  
'butterfly' has  
three syllables.

candle

The word 'candle'  
has two syllables.

ball

The word 'ball'  
has one syllable.

watermelon

The word  
'watermelon' has  
four syllables.

Click each

answers.

Next



# What is a Haiku?

Look at each of these lockdown haikus. Can you recognise a common syllable pattern within them both?

## Together

Although apart now,  
we are in this together;  
never forget that.

Haikus always have three lines of poetry with:

5  
syllables



7  
syllables



5  
syllables

Read each of the haikus again.

This time, clap the syllable pattern as you read.

Next



# Lockdown Haiku Examples

Read and discuss this lockdown haiku.

## Keeping in Touch

Communicating  
in high-tech ways with loved ones  
so our world can heal.



Does it have a 5-7-5 syllable pattern?

What is **Next** about?

How does **Next** you feel?

**Next**

# Lockdown Haiku Examples

Read and discuss this lockdown haiku.

## Keeping in Touch

Communicating  
in high-tech ways with loved ones  
so our world can heal.



Does it have a 5-7-5 syllable pattern?

What is the poem about?

How does it make you feel?

Next

# Creating a Haiku

Rearrange these words to create a haiku about learning at home during school closures.

My

Teaching

clo

Next

new

now

School

dad

is

is

my

today.

me

skills.

teacher!



Remember the  
5-7-5 syllable  
pattern.

5

syllables

7

syllables

5

syllables

Hint

Done!

# Creating a Haiku

Rearrange these words to create a haiku about learning at home during school closures.

~~My~~

Teaching

closed

new

~~now~~

School

~~dad~~

~~is~~

is

~~my~~

today.

me

skills.

~~teacher!~~

My

dad

is

now

my

teacher!

Here's an idea to help you. Remember the 5-7-5 syllable pattern.

5

syllables

7

syllables

5

syllables

Hint

Done!



# Creating a Haiku

Did you manage to rearrange the words so that it had the correct numbers of syllables to fit the 5-7-5 syllable pattern to make a haiku?  
You could have done it like this...

School

is

closed

today.

Mu

dad

is

now

my

teacher!

Teaching

me

new

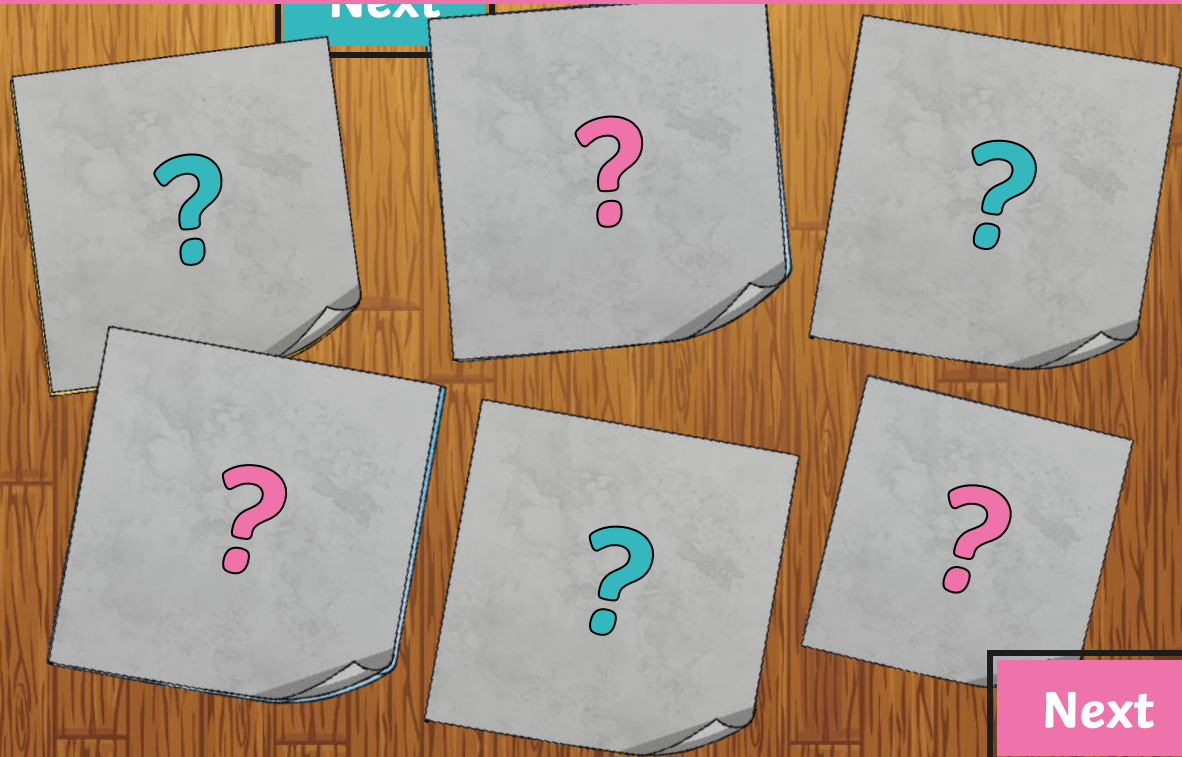
skills.

Next

# Planning a Haiku

Now, write your own haiku about your time in lockdown.  
What could your haiku be about?

Click on each note to reveal an idea for your Haiku.



Next

# Writing a Haiku

Use our **Lockdown Haiku Writing Frame** to write and illustrate your haiku. You could even write a collection of haikus and perform them for the people you live with.



Try out some ideas. Clap the syllables of your haiku lines to check that you have the correct 5-7-5 pattern.

Next



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