

# Haiku

## Task 1

- Say 'syllable' and clap the syllables as you say the word. Ask the children to copy you.
- Explain that they are clapping the number of syllables in the word and ask them how many. Once you have the answer '3', say and clap the word 'alphabet'. How many syllables?
- Have a pile of the **word cards** with the words face up.
- Have each child clap out the number of syllables for the words working through the pile.
- These are the number of syllables each word has:
  - 1 syllable — sound, loud, cake
  - 2 syllables — quiet, lemon, easy, clapping, poem
  - 3 syllables — tomato, difficult

## Task 2

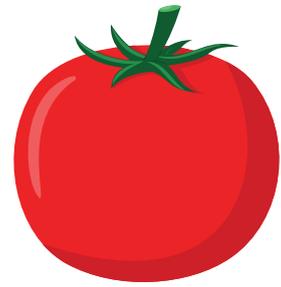
- Read out each line of the first haiku (beginning 'The apples ripened') and work with the children to find the number of syllables in each line.
- Explain that this is a special type of poem: a haiku. They are always 3 lines long and have 5 syllables in the first line, 7 syllables in the second and 5 syllables in the last.

## Task 3

- Children work independently to complete the questions.



sound



tomato



loud



difficult



quiet



easy



lemon



clapping



cake



poem

# Haiku

- A haiku is a form of poetry that comes from Japan.
- It is a short poem with a specific number of syllables in each line.
- Haiku always have 3 lines.
- There are 17 syllables in total.
- They don't rhyme.



The apples ripened,

5 syllables

Autumn scent filling the air.

7 syllables

Soon to be a pie.

5 syllables

1. Put a tick next to the lines that are **7** syllables long.

- At break I played with my friends.
- The dog ignored the toy.
- I wanted to go to the park.
- Whenever I'm bored, I read.
- I've never seen anything like that.
- Each cake was a masterpiece.

# Haiku

2. One poem below is a haiku.

Circle the haiku. Count the syllables to help you decide.

The frog sat there peacefully,  
Croaking on the lily pad.  
The fish swam below.

Whispering gently,  
I tell my dog he's the best.  
I think he agrees.

3. Finish these haikus.

Remember to check the number of syllables.

My cat sleeps soundly,

.....



And eats fish dinners.

Sam loves to eat cake,

and cookies and ice cream too,

.....



# Haiku

## Answers

- A haiku is a form of poetry that comes from Japan.
- It is a short poem with a specific number of syllables in each line.
- Haiku always have 3 lines.
- There are 17 syllables in total.
- They don't rhyme.



The apples ripened, ← 5 syllables  
Autumn scent filling the air. ← 7 syllables  
Soon to be a pie. ← 5 syllables

1. Put a tick next to the lines that are **7** syllables long.

- At break I played with my friends.
- The dog ignored the toy.
- I wanted to go to the park.
- Whenever I'm bored, I read.
- I've never seen anything like that.
- Each cake was a masterpiece.

# Haiku

## Answers

2. One poem below is a haiku.

Circle the haiku. Count the syllables to help you decide.

The frog sat there peacefully,  
Croaking on the lily pad.  
The fish swam below.

Whispering gently,  
I tell my dog he's the best.  
I think he agrees.

3. Finish these haikus.

Remember to check the number of syllables.

My cat sleeps soundly,

Various answers of 7 syllables .....



And eats fish dinners.

Sam loves to eat cake,

and cookies and ice cream too,

Various answers of 5 syllables .....

