

Daily Reading: The Twinkl Poetry Collection 5

The **video** focuses on **answering comprehension questions about haikus**. Children watch the video relating to the poems 'Second-Hand Planet'. They may choose to answer the questions on their activity sheet, they could think about the answers, or you may prefer to talk about them together. If they want to write down their answers, they can pause the video to give them time to write. Answers or example answers are included below. There are also some questions they may wish to answer at the end of the video. It will be useful for them to have the poems in front of them (included in this pack) to find the answers to these questions.

Watch Video



Second-Hand Planet

During the Video



1. Choose a haiku and count how many syllables are on each line.

Line 1 5

Line 2 7

Line 3 5

2. What do you think the purpose of the poems is?

Children may explain their own ideas but should recognise that in each poem, the poet talks about a different issue relating to the environment. In many of the haikus, the last line of the poem is something that people often say, such as 'turn up the heating' or 'eat up all your greens'. The poet is trying to show people that the small things they say and do every day impact the environment.

3. What does 'Read all about it' mean?

'Read all about it' is a phrase that newspaper-sellers used to shout, along with the biggest headline of the day. People would hear the headline and then buy the newspaper to read all about it.

4. Why do you think the poet included the line 'Read all about it' in a poem about deforestation?

The poet reminds the reader that trees are being cut down all over the world, causing huge problems for wildlife and the planet, then reminds us that we read things like magazines and newspapers every day. They're reminding us that it's our daily habits that allow deforestation to happen.

After the Video



5. What theme do haikus usually have?

nature

6. Why do you think the third haiku talks about 'carrier bag seas'?

Children should recognise that the environmental issue being referred to is plastic ocean pollution; the poet is describing the sea as being made of carrier bags to make a point about how much of the ocean is filled with plastic.

7. What are the rules for writing a haiku?

Children should recognise that the only rule for writing a haiku is that the lines should follow a 5-7-5 syllable pattern.

8. Why do you think the last haiku ends with 'Salt and vinegar?'?

Children should recognise that 'Salt and vinegar?' is a question asked to customers in a fish and chip shop. They should understand that the poet is showing how we buy fish without thinking about how overfished the ocean is.

Deeper Reading



9. Read the first haiku. What is the effect of the strange phrases in this poem?

Some children will recognise the phrases 'miles on the clock' and 'seeks careful owner' as reminiscent of a 'car for sale' advert. The poet is making suggestions for what an advert for the earth might look like, and is pointing out that the earth is now 'second-hand' (used), has gone a 'few million miles' (ask: does the poet mean miles or years, or both?), and that it is in need of someone to take care of it.

10. Why do you think this page of poems is called 'Second-Hand Planet'? Explain your answer.

Children should notice that the first poem on the page begins with this phrase, but also that the phrase is relevant to all of the poems. The poems share a theme of global impact of everyday actions, and when put together they suggest that the earth is 'used' or 'damaged', things associated with being second hand.

Related Activity



Each day, an activity related to the session will be provided. This activity asks children to write their own haiku. Haikus should consist of three lines, following a 5-7-5 syllable pattern, and should be about some element of nature. Count the syllables in the child's haiku and remove any unnecessary words. Play with punctuation or leave it out completely! There is no 'right or wrong' in poetry; it is an art form. Encourage children to display and illustrate their haiku, and be proud of it!