

Haiku

Haiku (high-koo) is a kind of poetry that comes from Japan. It is a three-line poem made up of words that total 17 syllables. The first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables, and the third line has 5.

Haiku poems are typically about nature. Here are four about the seasons. How many syllables are in each line?

Summer Haiku

Ice cream melts in heat
Swimming pools bring sweet relief
In the shade it's better

Fall Haiku

Crunchy leaves drift down
The moon glows with orange light
Bats fly through the night

Winter Haiku

Blanketing whiteness
Creaking footprints make us smile
Snowflakes blow around

Spring Haiku

The river runs fast
Fueled by the winter snows
Water brings the spring

Your Turn!

You can write a haiku, too!

Title: _____

Line 1: (5 syllables) _____

Line 2: (7 syllables) _____

Line 3: (5 syllables) _____

The Crane Wife

A FOLKTALE FROM JAPAN

Replace the missing words in the story.



One day, a rice farmer _____ a beautiful crane that had been shot with an arrow. The farmer carefully removed the arrow, and the crane _____ away.

When the farmer _____ home, to his _____ a beautiful woman was waiting for him. She had come to be his wife.

The farmer explained to her that he was very poor, but she told him not to _____.

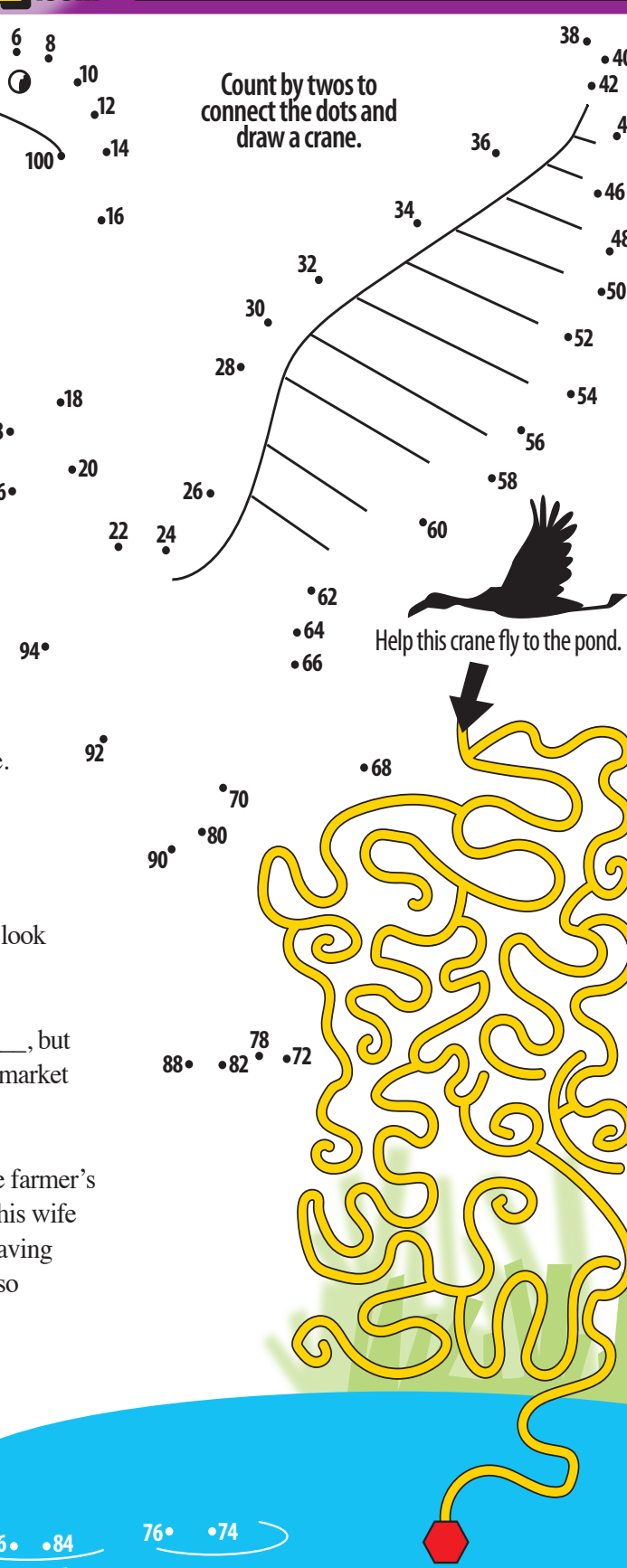
The wife shut herself in a room and told the farmer to _____ look inside. She stayed in the room for seven _____.

When she came out of the room, she was very thin and _____, but she gave her husband a beautiful piece of cloth. He took it to market and _____ the fabric for a high price.

A few weeks later, when his wife shut herself in the room again, the farmer's curiosity got the better of him. He investigated and discovered his wife was really the crane whose life he had _____. She was weaving her own feathers into the _____ for him to sell at the market so that he would no longer be poor.

Now that the farmer knew she was really the _____, the _____ spell was broken and she had to leave. She gave him the cloth and _____ flew away.

Count by twos to connect the dots and draw a crane.



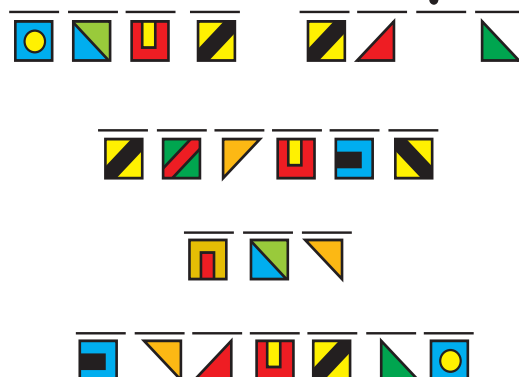
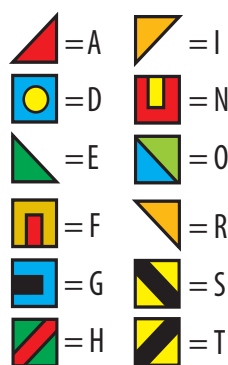
Help this crane fly to the pond.

A Story with a Message

Folktales are stories with messages about how to live a good life. What do you think is the message of *The Crane Wife* folktale?

Use the code to discover one message. Could there be more than one message learned from this tale?

Use the code to discover the message of *The Crane Wife*.



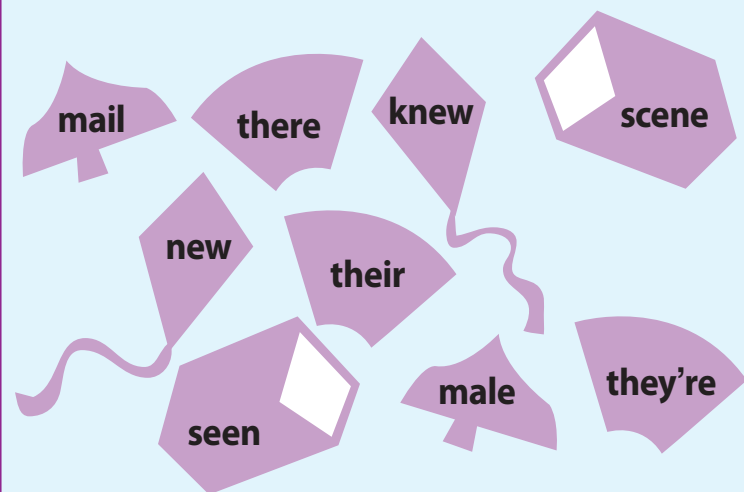
Story Starter

Select five nouns from the newspaper. Think of a story to tell with those five nouns. Write your story and share with a friend.

Standards Link: Identify and use nouns.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Homophones are two or more words that sound alike but are spelled differently and have different meanings. Draw a line connecting these homophones. Use the kite shapes to help you.

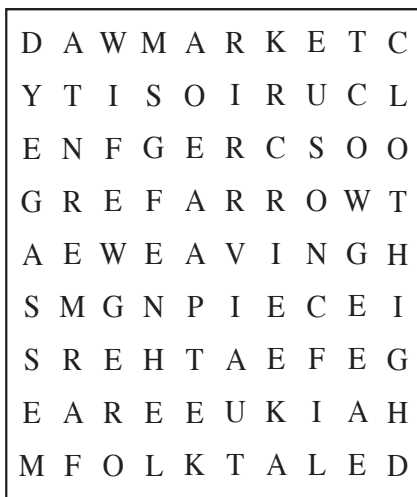


Standards Link: Recognize homonyms; use knowledge of homonyms to determine meaning of words.

Double Double Word Search

- CURIOSITY
- FEATHERS
- FOLKTALE
- WEAVING
- MESSAGE
- FARMER
- MARKET
- CRANE
- CLOTH
- ARROW
- PIECE
- HAIKU
- HIGH
- WIFE
- RICE

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Curiosity

Some people say that curiosity killed the cat. In this folktale, curiosity caused the crane to fly away. Look through the newspaper for some examples of where curiosity was a good thing.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



Write On!

Summer Jokes

Write down your favorite summer jokes and riddles. Mail them to a friend or family member who needs a smile.



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