

Indicator

- Reads and analyses different forms of poetry and uses a particular form as a model to write his/her own poem.

Teachers notes

- A string poem describes a keyword. It follows the pattern below.
 - Line 1 - Keyword is written 3 times.
 - Line 2 - Visual description.
 - Line 3 - Describes the size.
 - Line 4 - Describes what it does/they do.
 - Line 5 - Describes something interesting.
 - Line 6 - The keyword is repeated 3 times.
- A cinquain is a five-line poem that describes something. It does not rhyme. It has short sentences.
 - Line 1 - Title (one or two syllables to describe the topic.)
 - Line 2 - Two words or syllables to describe the title.
 - Line 3 - Three words or six syllables to describe what the topic does.
 - Line 4 - Four words or eight syllables to describe the feeling or mood.
 - Line 5 - One word or two syllables with a similar meaning to the topic.
- A shape poem can have rhyming lines but these are compressed into or around the outline of the subject being written about so one sentence follows the next. It does not have to rhyme. See example.

Our
lives
depend on
the water we
use. It washes
our bodies and
muddies our shoes. It
cleans our clothes and
cooks our food. It grows
our vegies. It's very shrewd! It
makes the rain and brings the
snow. It helps the factories go.
It keeps us cool on a hot
summer day as we dive and
swim in the sparkling
blue bay.

Additional activities

- Students write an acrostic poem using the words 'plastic bags'.
- Students use the form already given to write different string and cinquain poems about plastic.

PLASTIC POETRY

1. Read the poems about plastic bags.

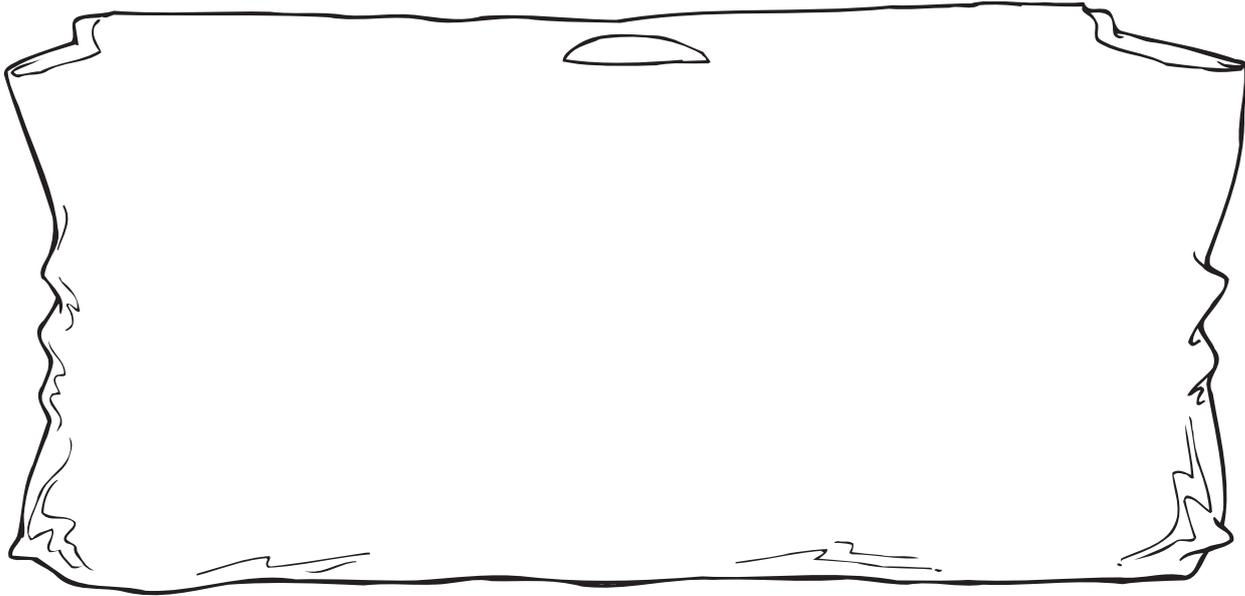
(A) Plastic, plastic, plastic
Slippery, smooth, deadly plastic
Large, small, middle-sized plastic
Choking, clinging, enduring plastic
Easy, plentiful, littering plastic
Plastic, plastic, plastic

(B) Plastic bags
Cheap, nasty
Clogging, killing, destroying
Overwhelming, polluting, careless,
Lethal
Polythene

2. Reread the poems above and list any words from them which indicate that plastic and plastic bags are not good for the environment.

3. Pollution is a grave concern for everyone. List words from the poems which indicate emotion.

4. Poem A is a string poem. Poem B is a cinquain. They follow a specific pattern. Use this pattern for a shape poem to write your own poem about plastic bags.



Remember: Plastic bags cost between four and six cents each to make, but it costs a great deal more to collect them once they have been thrown away!