

Leafy Language 1.

Syllables for Spinach (Haiku)



For the Classroom:

- Group structure - whole group or small groups
- Location - at seats
- Approximate time - 25 minutes

Common Core and Georgia Standards of Excellence:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.2.F. Use spelling patterns and generalizations (e.g., word families, position-based spellings, syllable patterns, ending rules, meaningful word parts) in writing words.

Materials:

- Spinach, growing in the garden or harvested in the classroom (1 per small group)

Reproducibles:

- [Haiku Poem Frame](#) (1 per child)
- [Vegetable Haiku Examples](#) (1 set)
- [Adjectives and Adverb Word Bank](#) (1 per small group)

Directions:

1. Observe a spinach plant or harvested spinach together either in the garden or in the classroom using all of their senses.
2. Place the eight vegetable haiku examples across the space. Divide children into eight small groups and allow them to rotate through, reading each of the poems and looking for the pattern between them.
3. Explain that haikus are three-lined poems that follow a syllable pattern - five syllables, seven syllables, five syllables. Explain that students will complete a haiku poem about spinach by choosing phrases that match the syllable pattern and describe spinach.
4. Read aloud from Adjectives Word Bank adjectives that could describe the look, taste, or texture of food. If it describes spinach, students can stand up. If it does not, they can stay seated. If it does describe spinach, the teacher can write it on the board as an option for the haiku.
5. Explain that “adverbs” are words used to describe how, where, when, how often, or why something is - sometimes they can be used right in front of an adjective. Read aloud from “Adjectives and Adverbs Word Bank” to find adverbs that could go in front of adjectives to describe the look, taste, or texture of food. Write these options on the board so children can use them to complete phrases in their haiku.
6. Provide students with the Haiku Poem Frame and allow them time to brainstorm words and phrases that would fit using inspiration from their observations and the word banks.

Lesson written by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics