Animal Cinquain

There are three formats for a cinquain poem:

**Format 1:**
- Line 1: One word
- Line 2: Two words
- Line 3: Three words
- Line 4: Four words
- Line 5: One word

**Format 2:**
- Line 1: A noun
- Line 2: Two adjectives
- Line 3: Three -ing words
- Line 4: A phrase
- Line 5: Another word for the noun

**Format 3:**
- Line 1: Two syllables
- Line 2: Four syllables
- Line 3: Six syllables
- Line 4: Eight syllables
- Line 5: Two syllables

The worksheet on the next page can be used to guide your students in developing a cinquain about an animal. The example poem uses format 2.

The worksheet could be used in conjunction with a visualization activity such as Project WILD’s “Animal Poetry” on page 282 or “Stormy Weather” on page 85. Alternatively, students could research an animal before doing a visualization exercise or writing the poem.
Animal Cinquain

Answer these Questions:

1. What is the animal’s name? ____________________________________________

2. What are some adjectives that describe the animal?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. What are some things that it does: How does the animal move, find food, eat, find shelter, find water?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

4. How does it make you feel when you see it or think of it? What role does it play in the environment?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

5. What is another word or words that identify, or name, the animal? ________________

Write the Poem:

__________________________
Animal’s Name

__________________________
Two adjectives describing the animal

__________________________
Three action words that end in “ing”

__________________________
A short phrase about the animal

__________________________
Another name or word for the animal

Example:

Red Fox
Sleek, Furry
Seeking, Creeping, Pouncing
Efficient Rodent Eater
Hunter