

## STAY IN LINE

# Give me five...

## write a cinquain poem!

**Materials:** Worksheets, cinquain templates, pencils, timer  
**Directions:** Read the worksheet, complete the activity and discuss with the Group.

What has five parts?

- There are five senses: Taste, sight, touch, smell, hearing.
- The alphabet contains five vowels: a, e, i, o, u.
- There are five weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.
- A cinquain poem has five lines.

A what?

A cinquain poem is a non-rhyming poem with five lines and 11 total words.

### SKYE'S CREEPY CINQUAIN POEM

Spiders (line 1: one word topic)

Hairy, small (line 2: two descriptive adjectives)

Creepy, hiding, jumping (line 3: three action verbs)

Give me goose bumps (line 4: four words on how it feels)

Biters! (line 5: one word synonym for line 1)

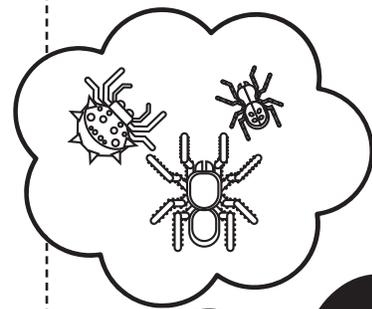
Today, we're going to explore our fears using the cinquain poem formula. First, let's read a poem about spiders.

As you can see, line 5 is a synonym of line 1. What's a synonym? It's a word that has the same or almost the same meaning. In Skye's poem, "spiders" is almost the same as "biters." Another example is "awful" and "terrible."

Now, let's read the activity instructions and write our own cinquain poems. Let's have fun!

### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Brainstorm things about your greatest fear by answering the four questions at the top of the cinquain template.
- 2 On the template, write a cinquain poem using your brainstorming ideas. Choose your most colorful and descriptive words for the poem, but only use the 11 lines. You'll have 8 minutes to write.  
(Set the timer for 8 minutes.)
- 3 When the timer sounds, we'll share our poems with the Group.



## MY CREEPY CINQUAIN POEM

1. What is your fear?

.....  
.....  
.....

2. Why are you afraid of it?

.....  
.....  
.....

3. How does your fear make you feel?

.....  
.....  
.....

4. What words describe your fear?

.....  
.....  
.....

**Directions:** Write your cinquain poem on the 11 lines below. Read the information in the parentheses to help guide your choice of words.

_____	(line 1: one word topic)
_____' _____'	(line 2: two descriptive adjectives)
_____' _____' _____'	(line 3: three action verbs)
_____ _____ _____ _____	(line 4: four words on how it feels)
_____	(line 5: one word synonym for line 1)