

Name _____
Date _____
Class _____

Astronomy-Inspired Poetry

Many stories, myths, songs and poems have been written about the stars, planets, and the universe. Your homework project is to write and illustrate a poem about an object in the universe that you are curious about. You may write either a Haiku, Cinquain, Quatrain or Limerick. (If you have some other type of poetry you prefer to write, ask for permission before you do it.) Your poetry must be at least 25 lines, and you may mix the form of poem you choose. Your poem should reflect the knowledge you have gained about one or more astronomical objects, and should include some of the scientific vocabulary you have learned. Use of one or more literary devices discussed in class should be incorporated into your poetry piece.

The poem should be typed or written in the center of a white sheet of paper. The border for the poem should include hand done mini-drawing, a stylish frame, or a collage of appropriate cutouts or other original artwork. The following is a description and example of the four forms of poetry from which you may choose. Each example was inspired by the Earth's moon. They are examples of the poetic type not significantly scientific.

Haiku - A haiku is an unrhymed poem consisting of three lines and 17 syllables

Pale moons shines brightly (5 syllables)
Against the nighttime darkness (7 syllables)
Dares to be explored (5 syllables)

Cinquain- A cinquain is an unrhymed, 5-line poem. Each line as a set number of words and a specific function.

Moon (Noun)
Round, peaceful (Adjective, Adjective)
Shining, Spinning, Smiling (Verb-ing, verb-ing, verb-ing)
Face in the sky (4 word sentence)
Mysterious (Noun or adjective)

Quatrain- A quatrain is a 4-line poem. Its rhyme scheme may be aabb, abab, abcb, abba

There is nothing quite so peaceful (a)
As the appearance of a full moon at midnight (b)
Its cratered face reveals its history (c)
With the help of the bright sunlight. (b)

Limerick- A limerick is a humorous 5-line poem with a strong beat. It has a rhyme scheme of aabba.

There once was a man named Neil (a)
Whose first lunar steps were so real (a)
He said to all (b)
These steps are small (b)
But ones that you would die to feel (a)

