Flower Poets

Essential Question:
What is a cinquain poem?
How do I feel about flowers in the Pollination Department?

At a Glance: Learners write a cinquain poem about a flower.

Background Information:
A cinquain poem has five lines and a certain number of syllables or words per line.

- Line 1 (Title) – 2 syllables or words
- Line 2 – 4 syllables or words
- Line 3 – 6 syllables or words
- Line 4 – 8 syllables or words
- Line 5 – 2 syllables or words

Further descriptions of the content are provided under the procedures.

Procedure:
1. Explain to students that they will think about the flowers they photographed while playing ‘Human Cameras’ and write a short cinquain poem about them. Explain that cinquain is derived from the French and Spanish words for five. This form of poetry is also based on syllables or may be based on the number of words, but there are always five lines. Each line has a specific meaning and number of syllables or words.

2. Provide paper, pencils, and a writing surface for students.

3. Provide the following instructions:
   - **Line 1.** Give your poem a title of two syllables or two words. This could be the department name, the manager’s name, a worker, a flower, or something you like about the Pollination Department.
   - **Line 2.** Provide a description of the title in four syllables or words.
   - **Line 3.** Describe an action associated with your subject in six syllables or words.
   - **Line 4.** Describe a feeling about your subject in eight syllables or words.
   - **Line 5.** Provide another word for your subject in two syllables or words.

4. Allow students to share their poems.

Discussion/Assessment:
How many lines does a cinquain poem have?
How many syllables or words for the first line? Second? Third? Fourth? Fifth?
Does your poem meet the cinquain requirements?
How does a cinquain poem help you describe your feelings about a flower or plant?