Activities

Diamantes Poems

Grades: 3–5, 6–8

Overview
Children learn to write Seven-line poems that provide grammar instruction and demonstrate parts of speech. Diamantes can be written to illustrate math, science, and social studies concepts. The patterns can be used in class quilts, mobiles, etc.
Introduction
Fun and easy to create, Dynamic Diamantes can be used to teach the basics about many subjects:

- Seven-line poems that provide grammar instruction and demonstrate parts of speech
- Diamantes can be written to illustrate math, science, and social studies concepts
- An engaging style of non-rhyming poetry that helps students make connections between topics
- Students review nouns, adjectives, verbs, gerunds, synonyms, and antonyms
- Writing Diamantes can be a class project with a central theme: peace, friendship, seasons, heroes, historical times, etc.
- Diamantes are great for presentations; bulletin boards, books -- even a class quilt can be filled with original Diamantes!

Diamantes are seven-line poems, identifying structure and specific parts of speech needed to complete each line. The lines are centered on a page, with the resulting poem making the shape of a diamond. Line one and seven list the one-word subjects (synonyms or antonyms) of the poem, line two lists two adjectives describing line one, line three lists three verbs ending with ‘ing’ that explain action associated with the subject, line four makes a transition from describing line one to describing line seven, line five lists three verbs ending with ‘ing’ related to the subject in line seven, line six lists two adjectives describing line seven.

An excellent interactive tool to produce Diamante poems can be found at http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/diamante/

SEASONS
Winter,
Somber, Chilly,
Sleeping, Waiting, Eating,
It seems to never end and then Earth awakes -
Growing, Living, Breathing
Green, Alive,
Spring
TOLERANCE
Prejudice,
Small-minded, Hateful,
Disliking, Ignoring, Hurting
Ignorant, Resentful, Open-hearted, Worldly
Learning, Inviting, Loving,
Brilliant, Moral
Acceptance

SHAPES
Square,
Measured, Symmetrical
Exacting, Meeting, Confining,
Crates, Borders, Halos, Planets,
Encircling, Continuous, Flowing
Round, Smooth
Circle

- Subjects:
  Poetry Writing, Shapes and Patterns
Recipe for Cooking
A Diamante Poem

This is a fun recipe because you bake it in the shape of a diamond. The Diamante Poem is similar to a Cinquain poem in that is it is very structured. Use the Diamante Worksheet to gather the ingredients you need for this recipe.

Ingredients for a Diamante poem are very specific. Add ingredients as listed, measuring accurately:

Line 1: Noun or subject - one word
Line 2: Two Adjectives that describe line 1
Line 3: Three 'ing words that describe line 1
Line 4: Four nouns - the first two are connected with line 1; the last two are connected with line 7
Line 5: Three 'ing words that describe line 7
Line 6: Two adjectives that describe line 7
Line 7: Noun Synonym for the subject

Frost with great vocabulary and drawings.

Review the checklist before serving this poem to your friends, teacher, and family.

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