

Pioneer Poetry

Lesson Plans for using the POETRY MAGNETS activity in the Wagons Ho! Exhibit

Have students sort magnets-words into columns that fit the following:

	<u>Feelings</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Nouns/Things</u>	<u>Descriptions</u>
<i>Example:</i>	tired hungry	rest swam	wagons pie	soft muddy

Have students compose a simple cinquain (five-line) poem using this formula:

- First line: Start with one word
- Line 2: use two words related to the top line
- Line 3: use three words or three word phrase describing an action
- Line 4: use four words or a four word phrase describing a feeling
- Last line: use one word related to the subject and title of the poem

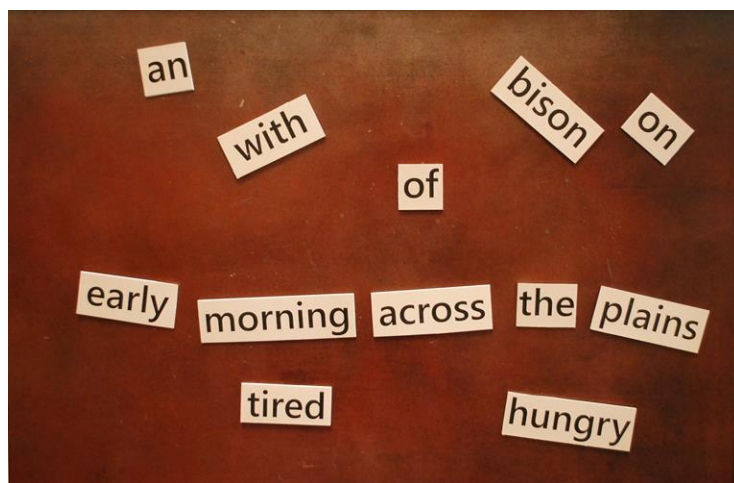
Example:

pioneers
journey west
wagons roll on
they are hungry now
traveling

Compose a tercet. A tercet is a style of poetry using three lines. It can be a way to start a longer poem with each stanza being three lines. Some poets like to make the last words in each line of a tercet rhyme, but it's not necessary.

Example:

The day is long and dry
Wheels roll west
Crossing rivers and plains



For classrooms not able to visit the Wagons Ho! exhibit in person, this is the list of words used in the POETRY MAGNETS activity.

across	from	ruts	a
ahead	frost	right	all
aim	future	rocky	an
another	gone	river	and
baby	grand	sang	as
beans	green	see	at
been	heat	sister	be
behind	hills	sick	ed
best	hungry	sky	er
beyond	hope	sleep	est
bison	horse	some	for
bold	Indian	story	had
brother	journey	stars	has
camp	land	storm	have
change	last	sun	if
child	left	soft	it
cook	let	tall	ly
cold	long	team	no
cost	lost	test	nor
dream	moon	tired	not
deep	morning	trade	of
desert	muddy	travel	s
dew	mother	trail	so
dust	mountain	try	than
dry	near	valley	that
early	now	wagon	the
emigrant	new	walk	then
evening	old	wade	there
every	one	water	to
fall	Oregon	way	too
family	oxen	went	we
father	past	were	I
far	pioneer	what	yet
fast	place	when	
few	plain	where	
fire	promise	why	
first	rain	will	
food	rest	wind	
ford	rifle	with	