

ACTIVITY: Write a haiku

GRADE LEVEL(S): 3rd to 6th



40 minutes

OVERVIEW: Creatively express thoughts of hagfish

DISCIPLINES: Science, language arts, visual arts

OBJECTIVES: Students will be able to:

- create and write a haiku
- list 3 words to describe a hagfish
- draw a picture that illustrates the haiku
- discuss the importance of all animals
- celebrate WhaleTimes Hagfish Day!

Materials: paper  
pencil  
notes from *enGrossed in Slime* Fun Sheet

## WHAT TO DO:

1. As if students have ever written a Haiku. (Provide more of a background if you need.) Explain that traditionally a haiku is a 3 line non-rhyming poem. Each line has a set number of syllables. Here is an example for Hagfish Day:

Line 1: Beauty of ugly (5 syllables)  
Line 2: Vaquita, hagfish, and more (7 syllables)  
Line 3: Protect ocean friends (5 syllables)

Tell students this is a quick example. They should take their time, have fun, and use extraordinary adverbs, adjectives, and imagery to express your feelings about your favorite Hagfish Day Stars!

2. Have students write one or more about hagfish, slime, and the other Hagfish Day stars at [www.whaletimes.org](http://www.whaletimes.org) or favorite 'ugly' ocean beauties.
3. Create art to match.
4. Share with class.

## NATIONAL STANDARDS:

Science: 6.1 Science as Inquiry; 6.5 Science and Technology Standards; 6.7 History and Nature of Science  
Ocean Literacy: 6. The ocean and humans are inextricably linked; 7. The ocean is largely unexplored.  
Language Arts Standards: #1, #5, #7, #12  
Arts Education: Visual Arts Standard 6: Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines