



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

My Cinquain: From Wings to Words

An activity of "Frozen in Flight"

Read the article, "Frozen in Flight" (pages 14-15, *What's Up* August 2025). Then, try composing a cinquain (say "sing-kayn") about flying!

The word "cinquain" comes from the French word, "cinq", meaning "five". It is a short, five-line poem that focuses on one subject e.g. a hummingbird, a butterfly, a plane, etc. Instead of telling a long story, the cinquain creates a vivid picture in your mind with just a few carefully chosen words. It has a set structure like this:

Structure	Cinquain
1 st line: 1 word (subject)	Hummingbird
2 nd line: 2 adjectives (describing the subject)	Jewelled, iridescent
3 rd line: 3 verbs (actions that the subject does)	Darting, hovering, sipping
4 th line: 4 words (a feeling or phrase about the subject)	Wings shimmering in sunlight
5 th line: 1 word (synonym or rename the subject)	Fairy

Now, to start writing your cinquain on flight:

1. First, draft your cinquain in the box below.

- Try out different words until you get the ones you like best.
- Use strong, specific adjectives (not just "nice" or "good").
- Action words should make the reader see movement.
- Line 4 need not be visual. It can be emotional as well (e.g. filled with wonder, joy).

2. Write your final version here. If you wish to, you may add to the illustration.



3. Share your cinquain with your class!