



### Six Dimensions

Connections  
Risk Taking  
Imagination  
Sensory Experience  
Perceptivity  
Active Engagement



## Topic: Friendship

### Preparation and Materials

Copy of poem "Best Kinds" (Appendix A)  
Interview sheet (Appendix B)  
White Construction paper  
12 water color pallets  
A class set of paint brushes  
Sharpie markers



**Risk Taking** This lesson is best done towards the middle of the year due to a risk of students not establishing a friendship yet in class. Although, this could be a lesson taught at the beginning of the school year so students can learn about their classmates more intimately. Also, students may be taking a risk by writing a Cinquain poem and interviewing a friend in the class they may not know very well or are not comfortable with at this time. These risks can be deliberate by the teacher in order for the students to get to know each other.

**Background Knowledge** *Students need to be familiar with the meaning of verbs and adjectives to be successful with the Cinquain poem. You may want to have a mini lesson on these parts of speech before starting the lesson.*

## Body of Lesson

### Attention Getter

Display the poem "Best Kinds" by Alex. Have the students read silently. Next, the teacher reads the poem aloud. Begin by asking the students what this poem is about. How does it make you feel? Does it remind you of someone? How does Alex describe his best friend? What adjectives does he use? As the teacher, tell the students who it reminds you of and a funny story you can share with the class that happened with this friend.

*(Alternative: Show a slide show of pictures with friends such as on the top of this lesson. They can be found on [www.office.com](http://www.office.com) clip art. Display 5 pictures one at a time and ask the students what these pictures remind them of. On the last slide, you can display the poem "Best Kinds" by Alex and then continue with the above.)*

### Imagination

Does a best friend have to be a person? Can we have friends that are not people? Ask students to share if their best friend is not a person and what is it? [Risk Taking]

Tell the students that a Cinquain is a simple five-line poem that follows a pattern. The students will interview a classmate or friend using what you learn from interviewing them. Hand out the Interview form and Cinquain format that can be filled in. (Appendix B)

### **Students will:**

1. Interview a student or friend in the class
2. Go back to their desks to write their Cinquain independently based on the information gathered from the interview
3. Students have a friend or teacher proof it for spelling or formatting errors.

### **Final draft**

Student should be supplied with white construction paper, water color pallet, a paint brush and a black sharpie. Students will create a picture using water color paint that represents the person they are interviewing. This does not have to be a person painted. It can be something that describes or represents them. This is their choice. After the paint dries, the teacher will draw pencil lines for the blanks in a diamond pattern on top of their picture. Students should be prepared to indicate where they want their poem to be within their picture (corner, bottom, middle, etc.). After students have the pencil lines drawn, the student fills in their poem in pencil. After proofing it for errors, the students then trace over the poem with sharpie marker so it stands out from the water colors.

### **Extension**

Students can read their poems aloud to the class leaving out the 1<sup>st</sup> line so students can guess who their poem is about. Whoever guesses correctly can then read their poem leaving out the 1<sup>st</sup> line. This continues until all poems are shared.

### **Reflection**

What went well? What will I change? How might I use this lesson differently or for a different subject?

### **Examples of Water color pictures:**



## Best Kinds

© Alex

The best kinds of people are warm and kind,  
They are always there and they never mind.  
The best kinds of people smile and embrace,  
They support you with strength and grace.

The best kinds of people love and cherish,  
They lift you up when you're near to perish.  
The best kinds of people share your joy,  
To laugh with you, to joke and enjoy.

The best kinds of people stand up tall,  
No matter how hard they fall.  
The best kinds of people are honest and true  
The best kind of person, my dear, is you.

Source: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/best-kinds#ixzz2zTRGHdXv>  
Family Friend Poems

# Interview Questions

1. What is your name? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are some adjectives that describe you?

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3. What are some activities that you enjoy?

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4. What do you think makes you a good friend to others?

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5. Do you have a nickname? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What else do you want to tell me about yourself?

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Write the Poem (1<sup>st</sup> draft)

\_\_\_\_\_

(Person's Name)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

(Two adjectives describing the person.)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

(Three action words)

\_\_\_\_\_

(A four-word phrase about friendship or the person you interviewed)

\_\_\_\_\_

(Nickname or noun)