



ART & WRITING ACTIVITY

In Japanese culture garden design is a high art. Learn about the design principles then design your own mini-Japanese garden. Be sure to include stone, water, and a tree.

(<http://www.helpfulgardener.com/japanese/2003/design.html>)

(<http://learn.bowdoin.edu/japanesegardens/elements/intro/index.html>)

materials

- recycled Styrofoam tray
- play dough for earth and grass (see recipe below)
- recycled metallic gum, candy, or cracker wrappers for water
- recycled cylinder cardboard containers (salt), cut for bridges
- stones and pebbles
- branch clippings for trees
- decorative punches for leaves and blossoms, OR use scissors
- tissue and construction papers in assorted colors
- doilies (for snowflakes)
- recycled plastic sushi grass for shrubs
- glue



play dough recipe

ingredients:

2 cups flour
1 cup of salt
2 cups water
4 teaspoons cream of tartar
4 tablespoons cooking oil
food coloring

Mix ingredients in a large saucepan. Cook over low heat, stirring until the mixture thickens and pulls away from the sides. Divide the batch in two. In one batch add green food coloring. Use this play dough for grass. In the second batch add red, blue, and yellow food coloring until the mixture turns brown. Use this for earth. Cool before using. Store in a tightly sealed container.

Consider the ways that each season is different. How can you design your garden to show one specific season?

Now, imagine you are walking in your garden. What do you see? What do you hear? What do you smell? What do you feel? Capture these thoughts in haiku.

A **haiku** is a non-rhymed verse that expresses an image or feeling in two parts spread over three lines, usually with a seasonal reference. Often there are 5 syllables in the first sentence, 7 in the second and 5 again in the last sentence.

(<http://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Haiku-Poem>)