

## CHANTS/POETRY FRAMES

*Bechtel, M. 2001. Bringing it all together: Language and literacy in the multilingual classroom. Carlsbad, CA: Dominie Press*

A Poetry Frame is a poem or song that lends itself to being adapted and expanded by students. The new content vocabulary is exchanged for the old, providing a low affective filter way to practice it. These poem/chants take advantage of patterning and negotiating for meaning.

The process should be modeled first by the teacher sharing a chant or poem s/he created on a different topic. Another way is to start the chant or poem and then have students help complete it. Students may be supported by using information previously gathered in a Process Grid or What I Learned from a KWL chart.

### STEPS:

1. Know your key concepts and vocabulary
2. Pick a frame or song (e.g. a Cinquain poem – example provided on webpage)
3. Count the syllables in each line
4. Replace the old words and insert the new vocabulary and concepts keeping the syllable count the same.