

# Bun and Bu: Balancing Military Prowess and Artful Living

## SAMURAI AS CULTIVATORS OF THE ARTS: WAKA POETRY, NOH THEATER, AND TEA

### Student Worksheet: Create a *Waka* Poem

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Archery practice, by Shibayama Hirotoyo (1673–1723). Japan. Edo period (1615–1868). Hanging scroll, ink and colors on silk. *The Avery Brundage Collection*, B65D2.

Japan's daimyo, or military rulers, studied poetry anthologies, composed poems and recited them to one another, and formed clubs to critique each other's work. *Waka* is a traditional Japanese form of poetry that was practiced by daimyo and learned samurai.

Waka poetry usually follows the 5-7-5-7-7 syllable format, and doesn't have to rhyme. This image includes four lines of waka poetry.

The art of incorporating poetry and image is called *haiga*. Haiga has a quick, light touch and depicts either an image in the poem, or an image not seen, but somehow related. They can also be a spontaneous brushstroke or two expressing the spirit of the poetry.

# Bun and Bu: Balancing Military Prowess and Artful Living

## SAMURAI AS CULTIVATORS OF THE ARTS: WAKA POETRY, NOH THEATER, AND TEA

### Student Worksheet: Create a *Waka* Poem

Write a waka poem. After you complete your waka, add your haiga in the box below.

---

5

---

7

---

5

---

7

---

7

