



From Antarctica's biting katabatic gusts to Hawai'i's sweet-smelling moani, discover fourteen winds of the world through poetry, scientific facts, and transporting illustrations.

Use *Great Gusts* in your classroom to teach poetry and research skills and to inspire curiosity about the natural world.

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MELANIE CROWDER
and MEGAN BENEDICT
illustrated by KHOA LE

mit Kids Press • TIPS FOR TEACHERS



- Discuss the poetry forms the authors used for "Oroshi" (haiku), "Helm" (written in iambs), and "Papagayo Jet" (copla). Have students write their own poems in one or all of these forms.
- Have students research weather vanes to find out why they are valuable. Then discuss illustrations in *Great Gusts*, noticing the wind lines and the different ways each wind blows. Next, have students make their own blow paintings using straws to further visualize the path of the wind.

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GREAT GUSTS

WINDS OF THE WORLD
AND THE SCIENCE BEHIND THEM

- When a wind blows the same way in the same place long enough to become familiar to the people who live there, it sometimes earns its own name. Research familiar winds where you live and how they blow. Does your local wind have a special name? If not, brainstorm a new one together. As a class, write a scientific note about your chosen wind. Finally, have students write their own poems about the newly named wind.
- Read the opening poem from this book. Brainstorm all the sensory ways we experience the wind. Experiment with arts and craft projects to make the wind visible or audible. For example, the class can create wind socks, kites, pinwheels, wind chimes, wind spinners, and more!

