

## The Spring's Cat

On a cat's fur soft as pollen,  
The mild Spring's fragrance lingers.

In a cat's eyes round as golden bells,  
The mad Spring's flame glows.

On a cat's gently closed lips,  
The soft Spring's drowsiness lies.

On a cat's sharp whiskers,  
The green Spring's life dance.

14<sup>th</sup> century Korean Poem

## La Piel de un Gato

En la piel de un gato suave como el polen,  
La gentil fragancia de la Primavera  
permanece.

En los ojos de un gato redondos como  
capanas doradas,  
La salvaje llama de la Primavera brilla.

En los labios de un gato gentilmente  
cerrados,  
El letargo suave de la Primavera yace.

En los bigotes de un gato afilados  
La vida verde de la Primavera danza.

*Translated by Arturo Romero Rendon*

## Pre-Read

1. Most poets use words to mean more than just their literal meaning. Find a line in the poem in which the poet uses words to mean more than the literal definition. State what the words mean literally in your own words. Then tell what they mean in this poem.
2. What is the main idea of the poem?
3. What techniques did the poet use to get the idea across?
4. How does the poet feel about the topic of the poem?