Intro to Haiku Poetry

Haiku poems are image poems. Traditional haiku poems are 3 lines and have a syllable pattern of 5-7-5. However, the most important thing is that each poem is about using ONE IMAGE (like a still photo) to show ONE IDEA.

Traditional haiku often paint a picture of a SEASON.

Examples of traditional haiku by Basho and others:

The old pond
A frog jumps in
The sound of water.

Coolness of the melons
Flecked with mud
In the morning dew.

Awake at night
The sound of the water jar
Cracking in the cold.

Cherry blossoms bloom
Softly falling from the tree
Explode into the night.

(Author unknown)

All the field hands
enjoy a noontime nap after
the harvest moon.

From a skyscraper
The new green leaves
Like parsley
-Takahashi Shugyo

The disk moon
the disk frozen lake
reflecting each other

Fresh scent-the labrador's muzzle
deeper into snow.
- Lee Gurga
Be a Poetry Detective
Can you guess which seasons are being described in the haikus? Remember, ONE IMAGE, ONE IDEA.

Be prepared to support your answers with words from the poem.
Notes:

Challenge: Choose and visualize a haiku from the list above. Write the haiku you’ve chosen and draw your visualization below.