

小池
xiǎo chí
The Little Pond



Many Chinese poets have written poems featuring dragonflies. Here is one of them. This poem was written by 杨万里 yáng wànlǐ. Wikipedia tells us he was born in 1127 and died 1206. Many of his poems were about nature. Listen to reading of the poem in Mandarin here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fI7pW-R9IOE>

泉眼无声惜细流

quán yǎn wú shēng xī xì liú
[spring] [eye] [without] [sound] [cherishes] [thin] [flow]

A thin stream of water flows silently from the spring/
The spring lovingly releases a thin stream of water.

树阴照水爱晴柔

shù yīn zhào shuǐ ài qíng róu
[tree] [shadow] [reflect] [water] [love] [clear] [gentle]

The tree's shadow is reflected in the water, it loves the clear gentle day

小荷才露尖尖角

xiǎo hé cái lù jiān jiān jiǎo
[small] [lotus] [just] [reveals] [pointy] [pointy] [corner]

The small lotus has only just revealed its pointed tips

早有蜻蜓立上头

zǎo yǒu qīng tíng lì shàng tóu
[soon] [there is] [dragonfly] [stands] [on top of] [the head]

Soon a dragonfly is standing on the tip of the lotus.