

小池

siu2 ci4, xiǎo chí

The Little Pond



Many Chinese poets have written poems featuring dragonflies. Here is one of them. This poem was written by 楊萬里 joeng4 maan6 lei5/ yáng wàn lǐ. Wikipedia tells us he was born in 1127 and died 1206. Many of his poems were about nature.

泉眼無聲惜細流

cyun4 ngaan5 mou4 seng1 sik1 sai3 lau4

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.

樹陰照水愛晴柔

syu6 jam1 ziu3 seoi2 ngoi3 cing4 jau4

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

siu2 ho4 coi4 lou6 zim1 zim1 gok3

xiǎo hé cái lù jiān jiān jiǎo

[small] [lotus] [just] [reveals] [pointy] [pointy] [corner]

The small lotus has only just revealed its pointed tips

早有蜻蜓立上頭

zou2 jau5 cing1 ting4 lap6 soeng5/6 tau4

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.