

Poetry Structure

This activity accompanies “The Path,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 4994.

Activity Title: Poetry Structure

Description: The students will explain how the meaning of the poem is enhanced through the poem’s structure.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain how the meaning of the poem is enhanced through the poem’s structure (meter, rhyme scheme).

Materials:

- “The Path” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencils

Procedures:

Read the poem with the class, or have the students read it on their own. Discuss with the students how to determine the meter and rhyme scheme of a poem. Next, have the students write a description of the meter and rhyme scheme of the poem, and also how these structural features enhance the meaning of the poem.

