

Author's Purpose

This activity accompanies "The Awakening," from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5326.

Activity Title: Author's Purpose

Description: The students will discuss in small groups the author's purpose for writing the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Author's Purpose

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain the author's purpose for writing the poem.

Materials:

- "The Awakening" poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students the main idea of the poem. Then, have the students work in small groups to discuss the author's purpose for writing the poem. Have the students discuss details from the poem that lead them to their conclusion. When the students have finished discussing, have a whole class discussion review their answers.

