

Theme and Rhyme Scheme

This activity accompanies “The Change has Come,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5032.

Activity Title: Theme and Rhyme Scheme

Description: The students will analyze the theme and rhyme scheme of the poem, and then they will write their own poem using the same theme and rhyme scheme.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis and Writing

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will analyze the theme and rhyme scheme of the poem, and then write their own poem using the same theme and rhyme scheme.

Materials:

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

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students what the theme of the poem is and how to find the rhyme scheme. Next, have the students work individually to write the rhyme scheme for the poem. Review with the class the rhyme scheme of the poem. Then, have the students write their own poem using the same theme and rhyme scheme of this poem.

