

Poem Theme

This activity accompanies “Joggin’ Erlong,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5189.

Activity Title: Poem Theme

Description: The students will explain the theme of the poem, using textual support.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Themes

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain the theme of the poem, using textual support.

Materials:

- “Joggin’ Erlong” 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 and dialect of the poem. Then, have the students work in small groups to write an explanation for the theme of the poem, using textual support. When the groups are finished, have the students share what they wrote with the class.

