Graphing

This activity accompanies "A Warm Day In Winter," from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5195.

Activity Title: Graphing

Description: The students will create a graph using the average temperatures in Florida for data.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

Skill: Graphing

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will create a graph using the average temperatures in Florida for data.

Materials:

- "A Warm Day In Winter" poem, available in audio and print form at http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/
- Paper and pencil
- Graph Paper
- Colored pencils (optional)
- Ruler (optional)
- Internet access to websites about Tampa, Florida's temperatures throughout the year:
  - http://www.rssweather.com/climate/Florida/Tampa/
  - http://www.idcide.com/weather/fl/tampa.htm
  - http://goflorida.about.com/od/whatsupthismonth/Whats_Up_this_Month_In_Florida.htm
- Graphing ideas website available at: http://www.teach-nology.com/teachers/lesson_plans/math/graphing/

Procedures:

Before beginning this lesson, visit the websites above to decide how you would like for your students to graph the temperatures. The first website gives average highs and lows in Tampa month by month. The second website gives max, mean, and min temperatures for Tampa month by month. Finally, the third website gives month by month average highs and lows for multiple cities throughout Florida.

Read the poem with the students, or have them listen to it on the Lit2Go website (website link above). Discuss with the students the main idea and dialect of the poem. Then, give the students data printouts from one of the websites above (alternatively you can have the students choose different cities, or graph the data of their choosing). Next, have the students use graph paper to create a scale and graph the data. Finally, have the students share their graphs with the class, explaining and interpreting the data.