

When it was Written

This activity accompanies “The Warrior’s Prayer,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5143.

Activity Title: When it was Written

Description: The students will use what they know about the time period in which this poem was written to explain the author’s purpose.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Author’s Purpose

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will use what he or she knows about the time period in which this poem was written to explain the author’s purpose.

Materials:

- “The Warrior’s Prayer” 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 time period in which this poem was written. Then, have the students work with a partner to explain the author’s purpose for writing this poem. When the students are finished, have them share what they wrote with the class.

