

Author's Purpose

This activity accompanies “On a Clean Book (To F.N.)” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5248.

Activity Title: Author's Purpose

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

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Author's Purpose

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will work with a small group to discuss the author's purpose for writing the poem.

Materials:

- “On a Clean Book (To F.N.)” 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, divide the students into small groups and have them discuss the author's purpose for writing the poem. Have the students use textual support as evidence for their reasoning. When the students are finished, have a whole class discussion reviewing the ideas and textual support the students discussed.

