

Poem Themes

This activity accompanies “When Winter Darkening All Around,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5366.

Activity Title: Poem Themes

Description: The students will work with a partner to explain the themes of the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain the themes of the poem.

Materials:

- “When Winter Darkening All Around” 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, have the students work with a partner to write an explanation for the themes presented in the poem. Have the students include textual support in their answers. When the students have finished working, have a whole class discussion reviewing their answers.

