

Reading Comprehension

This activity accompanies “The Lesson,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 4975.

Activity Title: Reading Comprehension

Description: The students will determine what the lesson of the poem was by giving support from the text in their answer.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Reading Comprehension

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will determine the lesson of the poem and give support from the text.

Materials:

- “The Lesson” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencils

Procedures:

Read the poem with the class, or have the students read it on their own. Explain to the students that in order to find the main idea, in this case the lesson of the poem, they will need to use clues and support from the text. Next, have the students work on their own to write a short response to the following:

What is the lesson of the poem?

What in the text helps you to determine your answer?

Be specific!

