

Main Idea

This activity accompanies “A Christmas Folksong,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5293.

Activity Title: Main Idea

Description: The students will explain the main idea of the poem, as well as the setting.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Main Idea

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain the main idea of the poem, as well as the setting.

Materials:

- “A Christmas Folksong” 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 listen to it on the Lit2Go website (website link listed above). Discuss with the students the dialect of the poem. Then, have the students work with a partner to write the main idea of the story and an explanation for the poem’s setting. When the students are finished writing, have them share what they wrote in a whole class discussion.

