

## Figurative Language

This activity accompanies “Alice,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5009.

**Activity Title:** Figurative Language

**Description:** The students will work with a partner to locate figurative language in the poem, and describe how it contributes to the mood and meaning of the poem.

**Subject:** Reading/Language Arts

**Skill:** Literary Analysis

**Behavioral Objective:**

- The student will locate figurative language (symbolism, personification, hyperbole, metaphor, simile) and analyze how it contributes to the mood and meaning of the poem.

**Materials:**

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

**Procedures:**

Explain to the students the various types of figurative language that an author can use. Read the poem with the class, or have the students read it on their own. After they read the poem have the students give a few examples of figurative language they found in the poem. Next, have the students work with a partner to list all of the figurative language they can find in the poem. Also, have the students write an explanation for how the figurative language contributes to the mood and meaning of the poem.

