

Poem Structure

This activity accompanies “Day,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5316.

Activity Title: Poem Structure

Description: The students will work with a partner to explain how the structure of the poem communicates mood and meaning.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain how the structure of the poem communicates mood and meaning.

Materials:

- “Day” 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. Explain to the students how mood and meaning can be enhanced through a text’s structure. Then, have the students work with a partner to write an explanation for how the structure of the poem communicates mood and meaning. When the students have finished working, have a whole class discussion reviewing their answers.

