

Poem Mood

This activity accompanies “The Death of the First Born,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5342.

Activity Title: Poem Mood

Description: The students will work with a partner to explain the mood of the poem, and then give textual support for their answer.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain the mood of the poem, and then give textual support for his or her answer.

Materials:

- “The Death of the First Born” 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 explain the mood of the poem. Have the students include textual support in their explanations. When the students have finished working, have a whole class discussion reviewing their answers.

