

Main Idea and Supporting Details

This activity accompanies “When a Feller’s Itchin’ To Be Spanked,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5352.

Activity Title: Main Idea and Supporting Details

Description: The students will work with a partner to write the main idea and supporting details from the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Main Idea and Supporting Details

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will write the main idea and supporting details of the poem.

Materials:

- “When a Feller’s Itchin’ To Be Spanked” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Main Idea and Supporting Details template (below)

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Then, have the students work with a partner to fill main idea and supporting details template (below). When the students have finished working, have a whole class discussion reviewing their answers.



NAME _____

DATE _____

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Directions: In the rectangle below, write the main idea. In the circles, write the supporting details.

Main Idea

The graphic organizer consists of a central rounded rectangle labeled "Main Idea" at the top. Surrounding this rectangle are five circles: two on the left side, two on the right side, and one centered below the rectangle. These shapes are intended for students to write their main idea and supporting details.