

Theme Support

This activity accompanies “Dead,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5059.

Activity Title: Theme Support

Description: The students will identify the theme of the poem, and the contextual support for the theme.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will identify the theme of the poem, and the contextual support for the theme.

Materials:

- “Dead” 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, as well as the theme of the poem. Then, have the students work with a partner to find contextual support for the theme of the poem. When the students are finished, have them share what they found in a class discussion.

