

If Poem

This activity accompanies “If,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5063.

Activity Title: If Poem

Description: The students will write their own poems using the same structure as this poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Writing

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will write his or her own poem using the same structure as this poem.

Materials:

- “If” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- “If” poem template (below)

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students the structure of this poem, including the rhyme scheme (ABABCDCD), indentations, and repetition. Next, have the students use the template below to write their own “If” poems. When the students are finished, have them share their poems with a partner.



NAME _____

DATE _____

"If" Poem

If _____

If _____

NAME _____

DATE _____

"If" Poem

If _____

If _____

