

## Descriptive Language

This activity accompanies “Christmas,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5360.

**Activity Title:** Descriptive Language

**Description:** The students will work with a partner to explain how the descriptive language in the poem enhances the poem’s mood and meaning.

**Subject:** Reading/Language Arts

**Skill:** Literary Analysis

**Behavioral Objective:**

- The student will explain how the descriptive language in the poem enhances the poem’s mood and meaning.

**Materials:**

- “Christmas” 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 listen to it on the Lit2Go website (website link listed above). Discuss with the students the main idea and dialect of the poem. Then, have the students work with a partner to write an explanation for how the descriptive language in the poem enhances the poem’s mood and meaning. When the students have finished working, have a whole class discussion reviewing their answers.

