

Writing with Details

This activity accompanies “Speakin’ O’ Christmas,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5068.

Activity Title: Writing with Details

Description: The students will write about their favorite holiday while focusing on writing details.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Writing

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will write about their favorite holiday using details.

Materials:

- “Speakin’ O’ Christmas” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Colored pencils, crayons, markers, etc.

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students the details Dunbar uses to describe Christmas time. Next, have the students write about their favorite holiday. Allow the students to write a poem, short story, limerick or song about their favorite holiday. Encourage the students to use as many details as possible to describe what they like best about their favorite holiday. If there is time, have the students illustrate the details found in their writing.

