

Whistle While You...

This activity accompanies “Just Whistle a Bit,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5092.

Activity Title: Whistle While You...

Description: The students will work in small groups to create a whistle tune or hum to accompany an activity, and then write about how and why the tune accompanies the activity.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts and Music

Skill: Writing and Music Applications

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will work in a small group to create a whistle tune or hum to accompany an activity, and then he or she will write about how and why the tune accompanies the activity.

Materials:

- “Just Whistle a Bit” 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. Then, divide the students into small groups and have the groups create a whistle tune, or hum (if they cannot whistle) to accompany an activity. For example, they could create a whistle tune for while they complete math work, for while they ride bikes, or for while they ride the bus. When the students have finished creating their tune for their activity, have them write a short explanation for how and why the tune goes with their activity. Lastly, have the students present their tunes and explanations for what activity it accompanies and why.

