

Alexander Crummell

This activity accompanies “Alexander Crummell - Dead,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5122.

Activity Title: Alexander Crummell

Description: The students will work in a small group to research who Alexander Crummell was, and why Dunbar may have written a poem about him.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Author’s Purpose and Research Skills

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will work with a small group to research who Alexander Crummell was, and why Dunbar may have written a poem about him.

Materials:

- “Alexander Crummell - Dead” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Internet access
- Alexander Crummell website resources:
<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/144691/Alexander-Crummell> or
<http://www.blackpast.org/?q=aah/crummell-alexander-1819-1898>

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Next, have the students work in small groups to research who Alexander Crummell was, using the website resources above. Then, have the groups write a short explanation about who Crummell was, and why Dunbar may have written a poem about him. When the groups are finished, have a class discussion about what they wrote.

