

## Symbolism

This activity accompanies “Dinah Kneading Dough,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5225.

**Activity Title:** Symbolism

**Description:** The students will work in small groups to identify and explain the symbolism in the poem.

**Subject:** Reading and Language/Arts

**Skill:** Literary Analysis

**Behavioral Objective:**

- The student will identify and explain the symbolism in the poem.

**Materials:**

- “Dinah Kneading Dough” 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 above). Discuss with the students the main idea and dialect of the poem. Also, explain to the students how to identify and interpret symbolism in a text. Then, have the students work in small groups to identify and explain the symbolism in the poem. When the groups are finished, have a class discussion reviewing the symbolism that was identified.

