

Summarize Through Reactions

This activity accompanies “On the Sea Wall,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5129.

Activity Title: Summarize Through Reactions

Description: The students will write a reaction to three of the six stanzas, and then summarize what happened in the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Summarizing

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will write a reaction to three of the six stanzas, and then summarize what happened in the poem

Materials:

- “On the Sea Wall” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Reaction template (below)

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Then, have the students write a reaction to three of the stanzas in the poem (template below). When the students are finished writing, have them share what they wrote in small groups. While in the small groups, have the students write a summary of the poem.



NAME _____

DATE _____

“On the Sea Wall” Reaction

Directions: Write the stanza number in the left column and your reaction to that stanza in the right column.

Reactions

Stanza # _____	
Stanza # _____	
Stanza # _____	

In the space below, write a summary for the poem’s main idea and events:

