

What's a Stirrup Cup?

This activity accompanies "The Stirrup Cup," from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5145.

Activity Title: What's a Stirrup Cup?

Description: The students will use context clues to determine what a stirrup cup is, and then draw a picture of how they think a stirrup cup looks.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Context Clues

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will use context clues to determine what a stirrup cup is, and then draw a picture of how he or she thinks a stirrup cup looks.

Materials:

- "The Stirrup Cup" poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc.
- Internet access to information about stirrup cups, available at: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/566617/stirrup-cup>

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, have the students read the poem a second time, looking for context clues about what a stirrup cup is. When the students think they have a good idea of what a stirrup cup is, have them write a definition and also draw a picture of what they think it looks like. Next, have the students share in small groups what they wrote and drew. Finally, debrief the students, using the website above, about what a stirrup cup is, and what they typically look like.