

During Douglass' Time

This activity accompanies "Douglass," from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5258.

Activity Title: During Douglass' Time

Description: The students will explain how the poem reflects the time period in which it was written.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts and Social Studies

Skill: American History

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain how the poem reflects the time period in which it was written.

Materials:

- "Douglass" poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Internet access to information about Frederick Douglas available at: http://www.pbs.org/thisfarbyfaith/people/frederick_douglass.html

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 work with a partner, or small group, to visit the website listed above. While they visit the website, have the students take notes on Frederick Douglass, especially details pertaining to the main idea and theme of the poem. When the students are finished reading and taking notes, have a class discussion about how the poem reflects the time period in which it was written.

