

## Booker T. Washington

This activity accompanies “Booker T. Washington,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5260.

**Activity Title:** Booker T. Washington

**Description:** The students will work with a partner or in small groups to research information about Booker T. Washington, and then they will explain how the information ties into the poem.

**Subject:** Reading/Language Arts and Social Studies

**Skill:** Reading Comprehension and Research Skills

**Behavioral Objective:**

- The student will research information about Booker T. Washington, and then he or she will explain how the information ties into the poem.

**Materials:**

- “Booker T. Washington” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Internet access to information about Booker T. Washington available at: [http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jimcrow/stories\\_people\\_booker.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jimcrow/stories_people_booker.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 research information, and take notes about Booker T. Washington (website link listed above). While the students are researching, have them think about how the poem ties into what they are reading. When the students have finished researching and taking notes, have a class discussion about Booker T. Washington and how the poem ties into the information they learned.

