

The Poem's Meaning

This activity accompanies "Slow Through the Dark," from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5263.

Activity Title: The Poem's Meaning

Description: The students will identify literary devices in the poem that contribute to the mood and meaning of the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will identify literary devices in the poem that contribute to the mood and meaning of the poem.

Materials:

- "Slow Through the Dark" 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 read it on their own. Discuss with the students the main idea of the poem. Then, explain to the students how to identify various literary devices found in a text. Next, have the students work in small groups to identify various literary devices in the poem and explain how they contribute to the mood and meaning of the poem.

