

How it Relates

This activity accompanies “By Rugged Ways,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5270.

Activity Title: How it Relates

Description: The students will explain how events of the time period in which the poem was written, are reflected in the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Literary Analysis

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain how events of time period in which the poem was written, are reflected in the poem.

Materials:

- “By Rugged Ways” 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. Next, discuss with the students some of the events that were happening during the time period in which this poem was written. Then, have the students work in small groups to discuss how the poem was influenced by the events of the time period in which it was written. When the students are finished discussing, have one member of each group present what they discussed to the class.

