

Your Favorite Photograph

This activity accompanies “The Photograph,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5171.

Activity Title: Your Favorite Photograph

Description: The students will bring in their favorite photograph and use it to write a poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Writing

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will write a poem about his or her favorite photograph.

Materials:

- “The Photograph” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Photographs brought in by the students.
- Construction Paper

Procedures:

A week before you plan on implementing this activity, ask the students to bring in their favorite photograph. It could be a photograph of them on vacation, a scenic photograph, a photograph of a pet, etc. Tell them that they will be using the photograph in a writing activity later on in the week, and to make sure the photograph can be glued to a piece of paper (have them get a copy if it’s an important photograph).

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students the main idea and dialect of the poem. Then, have the students use their photograph as inspiration for writing a poem of their own. When the students are finished writing, have them glue their photograph onto a piece of construction paper, and then have them write their poem on the same page. Have the students share their published poems and photographs with the class.

