

Primary Source Analysis

This activity accompanies “To the South – On Its New Slavery,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5273.

Activity Title: Primary Sources Analysis

Description: The students will analyze primary sources photographs from the Civil War period.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts and Social Studies

Skill: Analyzing Primary Sources

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will analyze primary source photographs from the Civil War period.

Materials:

- “To the South – On Its New Slavery” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Internet access to photographs from the Civil war available at: <http://www.pbs.org/civilwar/cwimages/tellingDetails/flash.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. Next, have the students work with a partner, or small group, to visit the website listed above. While browsing the website, have the students take notes on the various analyses of the photographs on the website. Then, have a class discussion on the different ways to interpret and analyze primary source photographs.

