

Main Idea

This activity accompanies “The Haunted Oak,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5274.

Activity Title: Main Idea

Description: The students will explain the main idea of the poem, using textual support.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Main Idea and Textual Support

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain the main idea of the poem, using textual support.

Materials:

- “The Haunted Oak” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Main Idea and Supporting Details chart (below)

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Then, have the students work with a partner to fill in the main idea and supporting details chart (below). When the students have finished working, have a whole class discussion reviewing their answers.

NAME _____

DATE _____

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Directions: In the diamond below, write the main idea of the poem. In the triangles below, write supporting details from the poem, for the main idea.

