

Robert Gould Shaw

This activity accompanies “Robert Gould Shaw,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5276.

Activity Title: Robert Gould Shaw

Description: The students will explain who Robert Gould Shaw was, and how he was an influential part of the Civil War. The students will also discuss the different perspectives gained from using various sources.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts and Social Studies

Skill: American History and Research Skills

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will explain who Robert Gould Shaw was, and how he was an influential part of the Civil War. The students will also discuss the different perspectives gained from using various sources.

Materials:

- “Robert Gould Shaw” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Internet access to information about Robert Gould Shaw available at:
 - <http://www.geocities.com/1stdragoon/files/rgs1.html>
 - <http://www.pbs.org/civilwar/war/biographies/shaw.html>
 - http://www.geocities.com/1stdragoon/files/rgs_darien.html (a letter written by Robert Gould Shaw to his wife about The Raid at Darien, GA)

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 in small groups to research Robert Gould Shaw using the first two website links above. The third website link above is a letter written by Robert Gould Shaw to his wife about The Raid at Darien, Georgia. Read the letter with the students, and then discuss how this source gives a different perspective into the life of Robert Gould Shaw, compared to the information given on the biography websites.

