

Poem Letter

This activity accompanies “A Letter,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5179.

Activity Title: Poem Letter

Description: The students will write a letter to a friend or family member in the form of a poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Writing and Letter Writing

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will write a letter in the form of a poem.

Materials:

- “A Letter” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Internet access to information on writing a friendly letter available at: http://www.teachingbug.com/lesson_06.htm

Procedures:

Have the students listen to the poem “A Letter” on the Lit2Go website (link above). Then, review the parts of a friendly letter with the students (website reference above). Next, have the students think of someone to whom they can write a letter. Have them follow the structure of a friendly letter, but for the body of the poem, have them write a poem using a simple AABCCDD rhyme scheme, as in Dunbar’s poem. When the students are finished, have them give their letter to their addressee.

