

Character Change

This activity accompanies “Itching Heels,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5278.

Activity Title: Character Change

Description: The students will compare and contrast how the character in the poem changes from the beginning to the end of the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Compare and Contrast

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will compare and contrast the character in the poem in the beginning of the poem, and at the end of the poem.

Materials:

- “Itching Heels” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Compare and Contrast chart (below)

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them listen it on the Lit2Go website (website link listed above). Discuss with the students the main idea of the poem. Then have the students work individually to compare and contrast the character in the poem, from the beginning of the poem to the end of the poem (compare and contrast chart below). When the students are finished, have them review their answers with a partner.



NAME _____

DATE _____

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Directions: In the first box, write how the character in the poem acts and thinks in the beginning of the poem. In the second box write how he changes at the end of the poem.

