

LESSON PLAN

List Poems

Subjects: Arts & Humanities; Language Arts; Social Sciences; Psychology

Brief Description

Students construct and illustrate a list poem. List poems can be on any topic, i.e. colors, foods, sports, animals, geography, etc. etc. With very young students, create several classroom poems. Older students can write their own poem.

Objectives

Students make a list of topic of their choice, select and organize entries as they construct list poems, create an illustration or a decorative border for the poem.

Level

Grades K-2

Materials Needed

colored pencils or markers, white paper, construction paper, scissors, glue, magazines

Lesson Plan

This lesson enables students to think, discuss, and create. The finished product makes a great classroom display for open house or performance for assembly.

Discuss with students what it is they would like to write about. Topic should excite students (i.e. sports, favorite book characters, animals, etc.)

Pose some of the following questions to challenge students to think about their options. (What animals live in other countries, in zoos, on farms, pets)

Pass out sheets of paper, and ask students to jot down words.

Students may gather into "buddy groups" of three or four students. Then have students share their word choices with one another and add to their lists.

Talk about a "list poem." A list poem expresses ideas in a consistent style. The following sample poem will illustrate that style:

Blue

Blueberry skies
your eyes,
icecream licking tongue
bubble gum
clear blue lake,
icing on birthday cake,
my favorite shirt
and the knee that I hurt!

Dogs

Fluffy
drooling
barking loud
pulling leashes
gobbling food
curling up
watchdog.

Please note: List poems do not need to rhyme!

Let students work on their poems in buddy groups. Each student should share his or her poem with one or more members of the group; the peers will check poems to make sure all directions have been followed and the appropriate form has been used.

Have students write their finished poem on white paper. Students may either draw or cut out pictures from magazines to illustrate their work, or they might create a decorative page border. Students might attach

their poems to the construction paper border.

Finally, let students share their work with the entire class so others might learn about their topics of choice.

Assessment

Students should be able to identify the characteristics of a list poem. Memorizing their own poem will help students master new skills.

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