

Grade 4 Curriculum Map

Unit 3: Meaning and Metaphor: Poetry

Unit Summary

This unit provides students with tools and strategies for approaching poetry, trains them in the methods and devices poets use, and equips them to read and interpret both formal and free verse poems. Students also have opportunities to apply what they have learned by creating their own poems.

Students read poems that represent a variety of time periods, ranging from Walt Whitman's reflections on nineteenth-century American society to the work of living contemporary writer Harryette Mullen. The poets in this unit come from a diverse range of cultural heritages within the US, including Black, Hispanic, and Native American. The structures of the poems themselves are diverse as well—some employ precise meter and rhyme schemes, whereas others use free verse.

Writing Focus

With opportunities to write their own poems embedded throughout the unit, students practice using the poetic devices they learn about by composing rhymes; creating similes and metaphors; using repetition and alliteration; and planning, drafting, and revising their original poems. Students also generate sentences, such as one-sentence summaries, and expand sentences using conjunctions and appositives.

Unit Length:

18 Days

Anchor Text: *Meaning and Metaphor: Poetry*
(Poet's Journal)

Text Type: Literary

Lexile: N/A

Overall Learning Outcomes

- Read texts with the purpose of identifying details and supporting evidence
- Explore imaginative possibilities for figurative language
- Identify and develop an understanding of poetic devices, including rhyme, repetition, alliteration, meter, and tone
- Explore and identify extended metaphors in texts
- Recite poems orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression
- Write original poems using rich language and poetic devices
- Unit Assessment

Big Ideas

- Poetry is a creative and imaginative vehicle for expression that is not bound by formal constraints.
- Poetry has been around for centuries, and it is a timeless, distinctive craft.
- Reading poems aloud using emphasis and tone helps audiences better understand the text.

Standards Instructed

Standards Assessed in Formative Assessments

Reading	Writing	Speaking & Listening	Language	Reading	Writing	Speaking & Listening	Language
RI.4.1 RL.4.1 RL.4.2 RL.4.3 RL.4.4 RL.4.5 RL.4.6 RF.4.4a RF.4.4b RF.4.4c RF.4.5	W.4.1 W.4.4 W.4.5 W.4.8 W.4.9a	SL.4.1 SL.4.1b SL.4.1d SL.4.2	L.4.3 L.4.3a L.4.3b L.4.4 L.4.5 L.4.5a L.4.6	RI.4.1 RL.4.1 RL.4.2 RL.4.3 RL.4.4 RL.4.5 RL.4.6 RF.4.4b	W.4.1 W.4.3 W.4.4 W.4.5 W.4.8	SL.4.1 SL.4.1b SL.4.2	L.4.3 L.4.5 L.4.5a L.4.6