

Reading Poetry Overview

Finding Poetry

Do not be afraid to think broadly when choosing poems for your class to read. A suitable poem may be based on actual historic events or figures, comment on the way of life in a particular time period, describe a geographic location or building/monument important to history, be old, new, structured, free-verse, or even a song, slogan, or jingle. Also, keep your students' interests and reading levels in mind during the search.

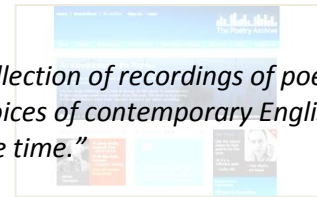
When looking for poems that relate to your History/Social Studies class content, consider the following:

- Involve your class by asking students what poems they already know of that may relate.
- Collaborate with other teachers within your school/district (ELA, History/Social Studies).
- Take a class (or personal) trip to your school or local library.
- Search the Web.

Helpful Web Resources:

The Poetry Archive: *"The Poetry Archive is the world's premier online collection of recordings of poets reading their work. You can enjoy listening here, free of charge, to the voices of contemporary English-language poets and of poets from the past. The Archive is growing all the time."*

<http://www.poetryarchive.org/poetryarchive/home.do>



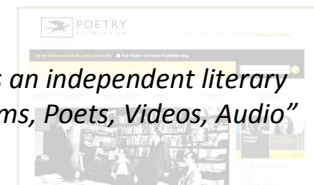
Poets.org: *"Visitors to Poets.org, the award-winning website of the Academy of American Poets, have access to thousands of free essays and interviews about poetry, biographies of more than 650 poets, as well as over 5,000 poems and 600 audio clips of poems read by their authors."*

<http://www.poets.org/index.php>



Poetry Foundation: *"The Poetry Foundation, publisher of Poetry magazine, is an independent literary organization committed to a vigorous presence for poetry in our culture. Poems, Poets, Videos, Audio"*

<http://www.myaudioschool.com/?cat=15>



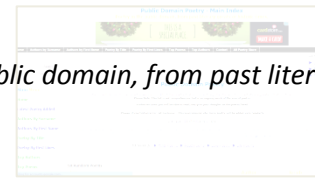
The Favorite Poem Project: *"The Favorite Poem Project is dedicated to celebrating, documenting and encouraging poetry's role in Americans' lives." "This collection of 50 short video documentaries showcases individual Americans reading and speaking personally about poems they love."*

<http://www.favoritepoem.org/videos.html>



Public Domain Poetry: *"Here you will find the poetry that is now in the public domain, from past literary greats of historic times."*

<http://www.public-domain-poetry.com/>



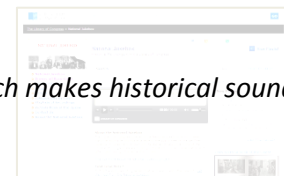
Bartleby.com: *"With tens of thousands of poems by thousands of authors, Bartleby.com offers one of the largest and oldest free full-text collections of verse on the web."*

<http://www.bartleby.com/verse/>



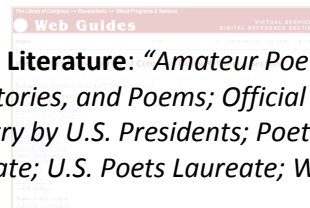
National Jukebox: *"The Library of Congress presents the National Jukebox, which makes historical sound recordings available to the public free of charge."*

<http://www.loc.gov/jukebox/>



The Library of Congress, Digital Reference Section, Literature: *"Amateur Poetry Anthologies; Civil War Era African American Women Writers; Finding Books, Stories, and Poems; Official State Poems; Poetry & Literature Webcasts; Poetry Audio Recordings; Poetry by U.S. Presidents; Poetry Criticism; Poetry of September 11; Poetry Resources; State Poets Laureate; U.S. Poets Laureate; Walt Whitman"*

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/bibguide.html>



Integration into Instruction

Once you have selected a poem, you need to decide how you want to integrate it into your lesson(s) so as to best teach the content, engage your students, and meet standards at the same time. To help get you started in planning the integration, refer to the following:

Relation to CCSS

Which literacy standards will we meet with this lesson?

- History/Social Studies
 - Key Ideas & Details
 - Craft & Structure
 - Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
 - Range of Reading & Level of Text Complexity
- Writing
 - Text Types & Purposes
 - Production & Distribution of Writing
 - Research to Build & Present Knowledge
 - Range of Writing

Student Response to Poetry

What are my objectives for my students in this lesson?

- Understand
 - Explain/Describe/Interpret
 - Discuss/Expand
 - Identify/Locate
- Analyze
 - Compare/Contrast
 - Infer/Investigate
 - Outline/Sequence/Categorize
- Evaluate
 - Argue/Debate
 - Appraise/Judge
 - Justify/Support/Verify

Presentation of Poetry

In what way(s) will I present my students with the poem?

- Reading
 - *Methods:* make copies for each student/group, write or project on white board
 - *Benefits:* aids visual learning, students can see the form of the poem and spelling of vocabulary, enhances reading skills
- Listening
 - *Methods:* read aloud (teacher/student/poet), play audio file
 - *Benefits:* aids auditory learning, students can hear inflection/meter/rhymes, enhances listening skills
- Multimedia
 - *Methods:* show a video of poem being read aloud, use illustrations of poem, use digital poetry
 - *Benefits:* provides visual/auditory connections to poem’s meaning, enhances engagement

Do I want to incorporate discussion/instruction on rhythm and meter? If so, how?

