

poetic YOUTH

Lesson 3: Color Poetry

Learning Objectives: Learn and explore the use of color in poetry.

Supplies: Pens, paper, folders, copies of William Carlos Williams' "Spring and All"

Warm-Up: Students and facilitators work together to generate words that come to mind when thinking of a color. Students call out and the lead facilitator writes their answers on the board. Other facilitators encourage students give their own words and encourage students to respond. For example, "blue" might mean loneliness, cold, calm, sadness, openness, the sky, the sea. Next, read William Carlos Williams "Spring and All" as an examples of a poem that uses color to generate description, feelings, and tone.

Length: 20 minutes

Writing Exercise: Students will be given a color in their groups but will individually free write using that color and the words and feelings they associate with that color. They can use the words we have come up with on the board for help. To avoid arguments, they will have pens and pencils of their group color on their table. In 5 minutes, students should make a list of feelings and words that describe their color. Next, they will free write a poem about their color for 5 minutes. For the next five minutes, they will underline their favorite lines in their poems. Facilitators will sit with a group and work on the same color, offering help if needed.

Length: 15 minutes