

poetic YOUTH

Lesson 2: Similes

Learning Objectives: Learn about similes and how to use them in poems.

Warm-Up: Ask students to arrange themselves in a circle. Explain the rules of the simile game (as follows). One person starts with a simple simile; for example, a rock is like a pole. The next person says, “a pole is like a ____.” Go around the circle once or twice, depending on time constraints. Tell the students to say whatever comes to mind--something silly or strange. The purpose of this is to help the students familiarize themselves with comparing two things that may or may not be alike.

Length: 10-15 minutes

Writing Exercise: Ask everyone in the room to write a simile in a sentence, using the same concept as the warm-up exercise. Next, ask them to brainstorm common similes that we use today. Next, hand out poems to the students and have them read the poem alone. Tell the students to choose one line from the poem that contains simile and expand it to create their own poem.

Length: 20-25 minutes