

California Federation of Chaparral Poets

Youth Poetry Lesson 7th-8th



How To:

Poetry Lesson

Step 1: Activate Prior Knowledge—What do your students already know about poetry?

Step 2: Explore Key Concept—What is poetry?

Step 3: Introduce the poet and provide historical/biographical information on him or her.

Step 4: Read the mentor poem aloud at least two times (teacher-read, student-read, pair reading, audio recording, etc.)

Step 5: Provide suggested prompts/questions to students.

Step 6: Give students age-appropriate prompt, and have them start writing!

Step 7: Have students conduct peer workshops.

Step 1:

What is Poetry?

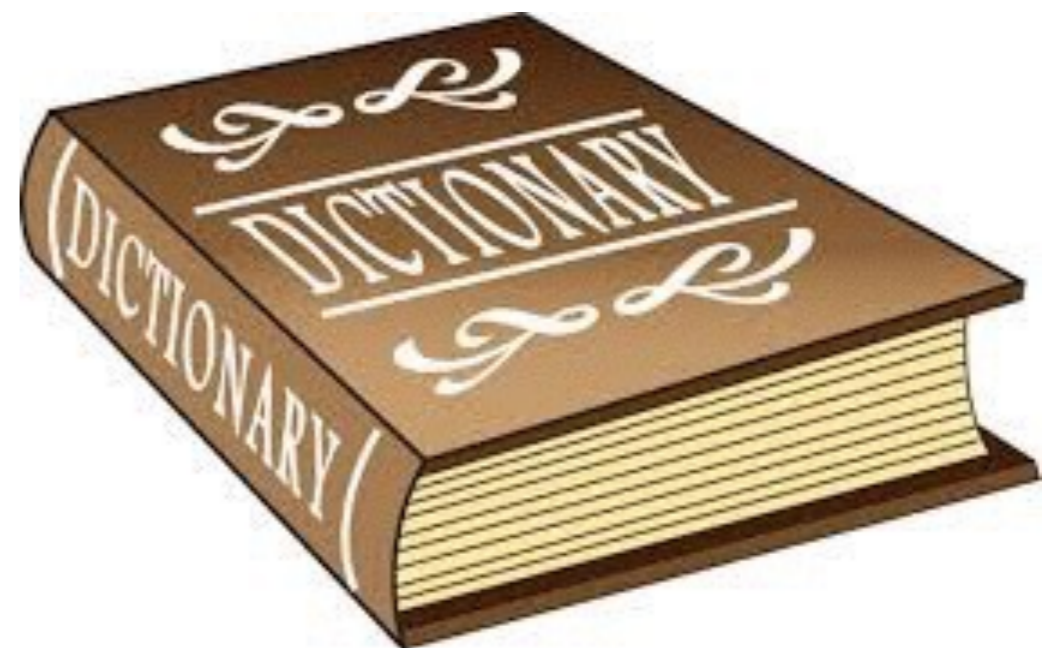
Write a journal in which you explore that you already know about poetry.



Step 2:

What is Poetry?

Poetry (noun) is literary work in which special intensity is given to the expression of feelings and ideas by the use of distinctive style and rhythm; poems collectively or as a genre of literature.



Step 3:



hello

my name is

Robert Frost

Find five facts about the historical context and biographical information related to Robert Frost.

Steps 4-6:

Grade 7 to Grade 8 (Ages 12-13) Poem & Prompt

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,
And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

—Robert Frost

Possible Prompts or Questions:

- What is a metaphor?
- What is an extended metaphor?
- What does the extended metaphor in this poem symbolize?



Road Not Taken Prompt

After reading “The Road Not Taken,” write a poem about a time that you made an unpopular or big decision. Explore how that decision played out and how it affected you, positively or negatively.

Step 7:

Peer Workshop (Small Group)

- ▶ Write questions you have about your own piece.
- ▶ Pass pieces to the left.
- ▶ Each member of the group will have 10 minutes to read through the piece and write **warm** and **cool** feedback before we pass to the left again.
- ▶ Once we go all the way around, the author will have time to read and respond to the responses.

WARM FEEDBACK

- I really like how you...
- You did a great job at...
- It was clear that you worked hard on...
- It was really interesting when you...

COOL FEEDBACK

- You may want to consider...
- I noticed that you...it may be more useful to...
- Have you thought about...
- It was unclear to me when you...

Poetry

Commandments

