

Play with a Purpose

Episode 2: You Real Cool!

Grown-Up Guide

Book/Material

We Real Cool, A Song in the Front Yard, and Boy Breaking Glass

Written by Gwendolyn Brooks

This is All I have for Me Written by Damien McClendon

Concepts

stream of consciousness; always poeting; Harlem Renaissance

Words to Know

Poet Laureate,

Main Activity

After watching Amy and Damien discuss the poet, students will make their own Golden Shovel Poem from one of the Gwendolyn Brooks' poems read.

Follow Up/ Extension

1. Students can describe their own backyards (local park, or wherever they may play). Students can either draw a picture or write their own poem to share their experiences with others.
2. Read another poem by the same author. (see example on next page) and talk about how the words and ideas are similar.



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Additional Resources

1. Read the original Golden Shovel poem by Terrance Hayes: *The Golden Shovel*
<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/55678/the-golden-shovel>
2. For more information on the Golden Shovel type of poem, check out https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_shovel
3. Check out *Bronzeville Boys and Girls* by Gwendolyn Brooks to read her poems for and about children:
<https://www.harpercollins.com/products/bronzeville-boys-and-girls-gwendolyn-brooks?variant=32116964622370>
4. Watch Amanda Gorman (a youth poet laureate) read her inauguration poem “*The Hill We Climb*”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZ055illiN4>

Video Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Miv3HRTC9Z4&t=919s>