

Play with a Purpose

Episode 2: You Real Cool!

Teacher Guide

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

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 poeiting; Harlem Renaissance

Vocabulary

Poet Laureate, Golden Shovel

OHIO STANDARDS

RL.1.4; RL.4.7; W.1.8; W.4.3.D

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. Assign the same one to whole class or let them pick one to which they felt a connection. If students have not mastered writing, have them illustrate one of the poems to demonstrate their understanding - have them verbally summarize or explain the poem as well.

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 out doors 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.

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>



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