

Curriculum Unit  
Title

Exploring Identity Through Poetry and Images

Author

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**KEY LEARNING, ENDURING UNDERSTANDING, ETC.**

Students will understand that everyone has a unique story to tell and that our past experiences influence our identity today. As they try their hand at writing a variety of styles of poetry, they will also understand that writing is a process that includes planning, drafting and revising and that it is an excellent medium for self-expression.

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION(S) for the UNIT**

What is identity? How does my past and family influence how I feel about myself?  
How can poetry and Ekphrasis help me express my feelings about myself and my place in the world?  
How can I express the way that visual images and art can make me feel?

**CONCEPT A**

**CONCEPT B**

**CONCEPT C**

Our identity is complex: it can change and be influenced by experiences and culture.

Poetry has many forms.

Poetry can be a written form of expressing feelings and responses to

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS A**

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS B**

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS C**

“How does my past and my family influence how I feel about myself?”

How can poetry and Ekphrasis help me express my feelings about myself and my place in the world?

How can I express the way that visual images and art can make me feel?

**VOCABULARY A**

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Identity, heritage, culture, ancestry, traditions

Figurative language, simile, metaphor, alliteration, rhyme, stanza, lyric, narrative, dramatic, acrostic, ballad, cinquain, concrete, erasure, blackout, haiku, pantoum

Ekphrasis, ballad, narrative, collaborative, expression, soliloquy, drama, connection

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/MATERIAL/TEXT/FILM/RESOURCES**

Browning, Robert. "My Last Duchess by Robert Browning." Poetry Foundation. Accessed October 28, 2018.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/43768/my-last-duchess>

Creech, Sharon. *Love That Dog*. New York: HarperCollins, 2006.

Kennedy, X. J., and Dana Gioia. *Backpack Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing*. Boston: Pearson, 2016.

Koch, Kenneth. *Rose, Where Did You Get That Red? Teaching Great Poetry to Children*. New York: Vintage Books, 1990.

Rowden, Justine. *Paint Me a Poem: Poems Inspired by Masterpieces of Art*. Honesdale, PA: Wordsong/Boyd's Mills Press, 2005.