PONGO POETRY PROJECT

Pongo Poetry Workshop Theme: Roots

Length: 60-90 Minutes

Standards: CCSS:ELA:W.3.D; WA-ELP:9-12.9

Snapshot

Essential Question (*Why are we learning this?*): How does where we come from affect who we are?

Learning Target (*What are we doing?*): Students read 1-2 examples of personal poems; students write their own poem (s) on the theme or other personal topic.

Success Criteria (*How do I know I was successful?*): I wrote 1 to 2 personal poems on the topic of identity in relation to place or other personal topic; students use 3-4 poetic devices to personize the poems.

Opening Poem—(2 minutes)

"Where I Come From" by Seb (Youth Poet)

Intro to Personal Poetry Writing with Pongo—(5 min)

Opening questions: Who's written poetry before? What makes a good poem?

Pongo Poetry Project's Values:

- Honesty is the most quality of good poetry.
- Write from the heart about who you are as a person.
- Young people have important things to say.

Lesson continues in either Pongo Classic or Classroom mode…

Pongo Classic 1-1 ratio, ideal for after school or pull-out group *(approx. 5 students, 5 Pongo-trained Poetry Mentors)*	Pongo Classroom *(1-2 poetry mentors; 10-20 students)*
Names & Norms—(5-10 min) *(What are some guidelines we should have to create a Brave Space?)*	**Names & Norms**—(5-10 min) Same as "Classic"
Group Writing Activity*—(15-20 min) 1st Read/Watch "Nikki Rosa" by Nikki Giovanni 2nd Group Poem in Response—Students volunteer responses to instructor prompts, instructor records responses, a poem is created.	**Group Writing Activity***—(20 min) Same as "Classic"
*Skip Group Poem Activity if only 60 Minutes	
One-on-One Poetry Writing with Students and Poetry Mentors*—(30-40 min) Students-Mentors pair up Student chooses a.) Dictation, b.) Fill-in-the-blank such as "Where I'm From" or other or c.) independent write, asking for assistance when needed. Multiple methods may be used depending on student need.	**Independent Writing***—(20 min) 1.) Participants complete fill-in-the-blank such as "Where I Come From" or can write independently. Pongo Poetry Mentor (s) circulate and is available to help generate ideas.
*Pongo's "Ideas for Personal/Poetic Enhancements" Handout available for poetic devices	
Group Sharing—(10-15 min) Review our Norms/Guidelines Volunteer participants read (one to start, more if time), Audience listens; snaps at the end	**Group Sharing**—(10-15 min) Same as "Classic"

Wrap Up—(5-15 min)

1. Students complete Writer Experience Survey/Writer's Release for Publication
2. Pongo Poetry Mentors collect student poems
3. Send out poem (*if time*): "Black Like Me" by Kiana Davis; or "Five Houses Down" by Christian Wiman