

Lesson Title: Poetry & Theme Designer: Bria Wright
Discipline: Literacy Grade Level: 4-5

Activity 1: Building Inferences with Poetry
(Appropriate for *DURING* the Broadcast Lesson)

Activity Goal: Identifying theme

Targeted Literacy Skills: Inferencing

Materials: A Dreamer's Dream Poem - stanza 2

Steps:

1. Read stanza 2 of "A Dreamer's Dream" poem.
2. Use your close reading skills to identify and write the theme (the message/lesson the author wants us to learn) of stanza 2 of A Dreamer's Dream Poem.

Activity 2: Observing Theme in Everyday Reading Practices
(Appropriate for *AFTER* the Broadcast Lesson)

Activity Goal: Identify theme of a text

Targeted Literacy Skills: Identifying theme

Materials: Any text

Steps:

1. Read any fiction text or passage.
2. Think about what is the theme (the message/lesson the author wants us to learn) of this text or passage.
3. Write what the theme is and share it with a loved one!

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Additional Resources for Lesson-Related Extension Activities:

- **Student-Facing**
 - Learn how to identify theme in this short animated video from (UNC TV & PBS Learning Media) - <https://unctv.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/litel18-ela-theme/literary-elements-and-techniques-theme/>
 - Instruction video that explains theme using Star Wars characters (BrainPop) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RecVd-6g-IY&feature=emb_logo
- **Teacher-Facing**
 - Higher order thinking questions for teaching theme in 4th and 5th grade (Teaching Made Practical) - <https://teachingmadepractical.com/questions-for-teaching-theme/>
 - Lesson ideas to support theme and inferencing skills using songs and scripts (Scholastic) - <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/grades-4-5-teaching-theme/>
 - Graphic organizer to support students in identifying theme (Education.com) - <https://www.education.com/lesson-plan/theres-no-i-in-theme-work/>