

SLAM POETRY

What is it, anyway?

Take A Guess...

What do you know or think you know about slam poetry?

What do you guess it might be?

Share your ideas.

Discovering Slam...Inductively

- Take a handout from your teacher and read over the questions in each box.
- As you watch some slam poetry performances, fill in the boxes to the best of your ability (there is no right or wrong!)
- **Your Goal:** Figure out what slam poetry is all about by watching some of the "masters" at work.

Slam #1: "Thinking About You"



If video above will not load, visit link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0QiFy8dmX0>

Slam #2: "Hands"



If video above will not load, visit link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuAbGJBvIVY>

Slam #3: "Tourettes"



If video above will not load, visit link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5eN_iXWCgzQ

Slam #4: "Dating Myself"



If video above will not load, visit link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFhFaRKVpTY>

Slam #5: "Knock Knock"



If video above will not load, visit link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eYH0AFx6yI>

Complete the Handout; Discuss

- Now that you have seen several slam poems, you probably have a feel for what slam is all about.
- Share/Discuss: How did you answer the questions in each box?

Try Your Hand at Slam

- For the next few minutes, we will all take a shot at writing a slam poem.
- Remember: It does not have to rhyme. It can be serious, or it can be funny. There are no real "rules" when it comes to writing slam poetry.

Potential Prompts:

You can write about anything you'd like, but if you need an idea, try one of these:

1. Write about a childhood game or memory. This could be about a parent, like the "Knock Knock" or "Hands" poem.
2. Taking inspiration from the "Tourettes" poem, write a poem about what makes you or someone you know different or unique.
3. Write a poem about what you think about when your mind wanders off in class, like the "Thinking About You" poem.
4. Write a "love poem" for something you dislike.

Share Your Slam with the Class

Want to See or Perform LIVE SLAM?

- Come to the Youth Poetry Slam on Thursday, Nov.24th
The slam is open to all high school students in the Littleton Public School District
- Slam begins at 7:00 pm in the Arapahoe High auditorium
- Tickets are \$3 for students with valid I.D. from a Littleton Public School District high school; \$5 for non-district guest
- For more information or to sign up to perform, visit (*write this down!*):

LPSSLAM.weebly.com

*Lesson Created by Holly Hoggarth, Smoky Hill High School
April 2011*