

Poetry

LANGUAGE ARTS CLASSROOM

LITERATURE FREEBIE FOUR

PURPOSE:

The overall graphic organizer can be used as an introduction activity after students understand the terms. Students can find poems from their textbooks, online, or from a select group of poems. Students should then find examples.

You can display the graphic organizers or present them to the class.

IDEAS FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

Writing:

Give or ask students to choose an example of figurative language. On the back of their graphic organizer, ask students to write a poem using that form of figurative language. (Students will already have a model for their choice.)

As a twist, ask students to write only a few lines of a poem, and then pass the poem to a peer for the next student to add to the poem.

Evaluate:

After students find the examples, ask them to evaluate a piece. How does a particular example of figurative language influence a poem? Did the author choose wisely? Did the figurative language provide an image? How?

Application:

Take the application of these terms a step more. How are these examples prevalent in students' music? Musicians use figurative language in their songs. Now that students have "hunted" for these literary devices in poetry, ask them to find them in popular music.

Analysis:

This download also includes ten poems that are readily available on the Internet. Divide students into partners or groups, and assign the poems. Ask students to paraphrase and annotate the poems. Draw conclusions as a class together.

Poetry

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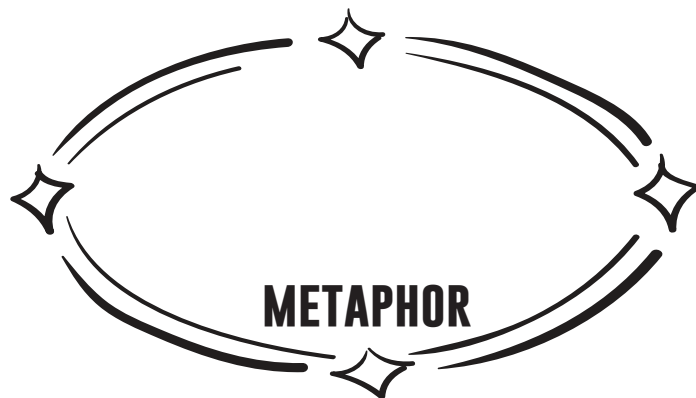
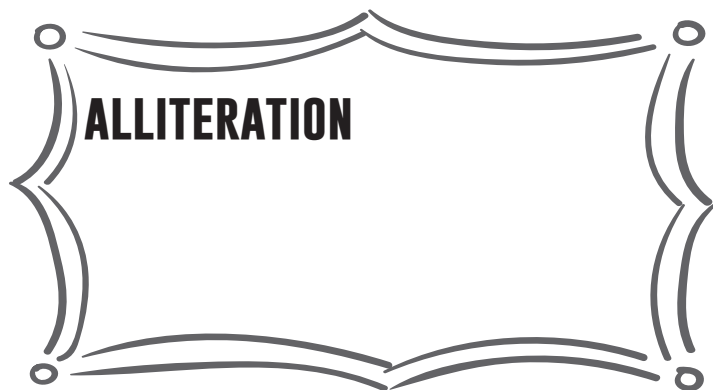
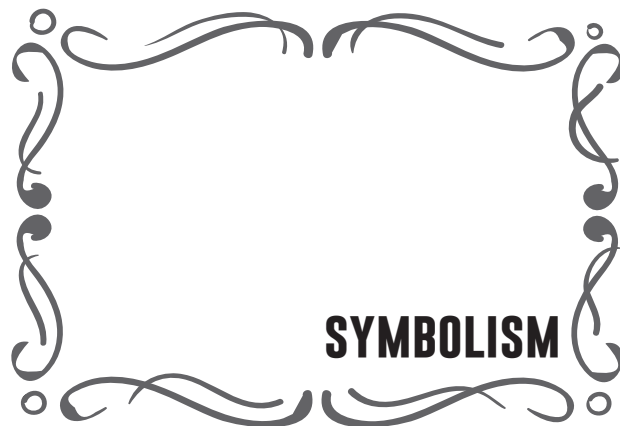
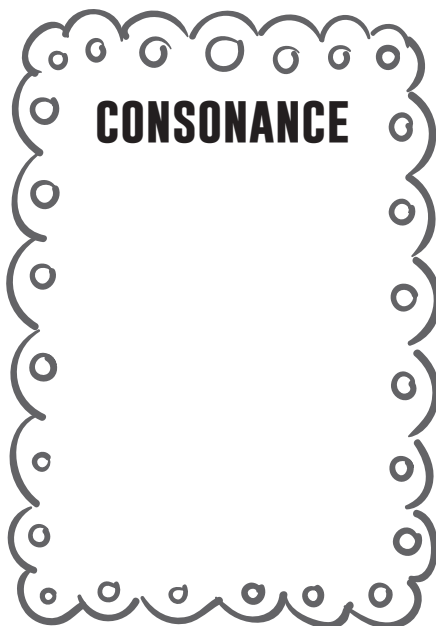
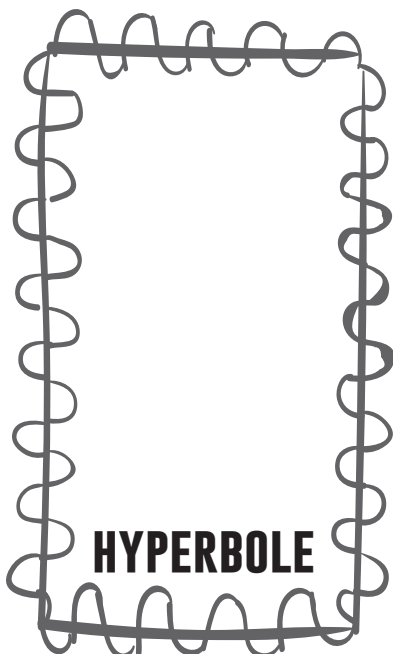
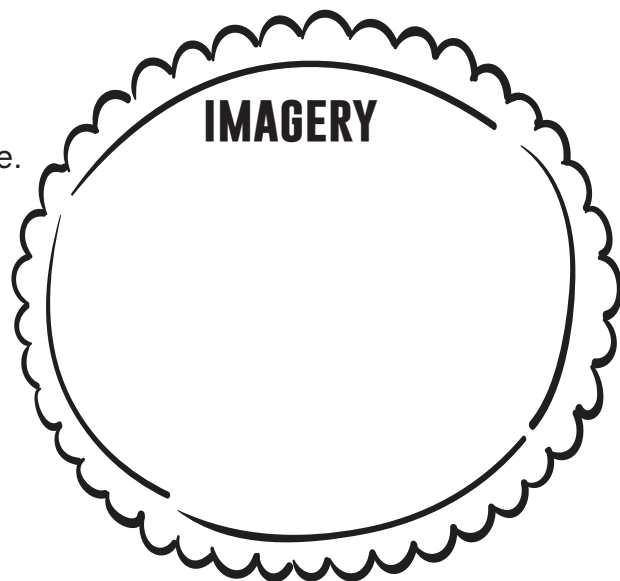
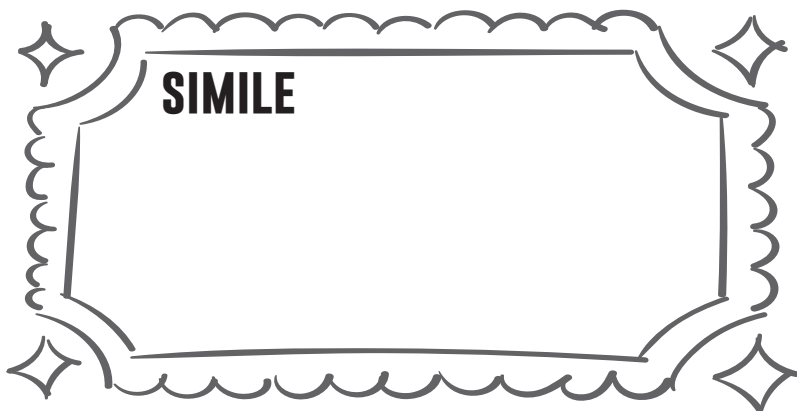
LITERATURE FREEBIE FOUR

**DO YOU NEED MORE POETRY ACTIVITIES?
CLICK ON ANY IMAGE TO SEE MORE GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS.**



FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN POETRY

Directions: Find examples of each type of figurative language.



FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN POETRY

1. Edgar Allan Poe: "Annabel Lee," hyperbole.

I started with Poe because I love him. He's dark and brooding... great features for a poet. "Annabel Lee" is sad, but students often see it as upbeat because the theme relates to love. Neither Poe nor his darling bride was a "child," making this the perfect poem for teaching hyperbole.

2. Maya Angelou: "Still I Rise," consonance.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings is one of my favorite books, and I introduce Angelou to students with her poetry. Students enjoy the momentum of the poem, and they can easily analyze how her use of consonance creates a flow.

3. Langston Hughes: "Harlem (Dream Deferred)," simile.

Langston Hughes is probably my favorite poet, and I sneak his poetry into class often. "Dream Deferred" has clear similes. Students have strong opinions about raisins, and the poem grosses some of them out which, I always tell them, is the point of poetry. A reader should feel emotional about poetry.

4. William Shakespeare: "Sonnet 18," metaphor.

I introduce classics to students alongside modern pieces. "Sonnet 18" is the perfect example of students enjoying classic pieces. Most students have heard part of this sonnet, and explaining the metaphor is an easy next step.

5. Elizabeth Alexander: "Butter," alliteration.

"Butter" has great examples of alliteration, but the entire poem provides a great opportunity for discussion. Teach this poem alone or with any story that reflects on childhood. Students will giggle over the poem's message.

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN POETRY

6. Walter Dean Myers: "Summer," imagery.

I honestly teach this poem at the end of the school year. Students can relate to the poem because Myers has targeted exactly what summer means to youth. I like sending students to summer with a bit of imagery.

7. Gwendolyn Brooks: "Speech to the Young," alliteration, assonance, consonance.

This poem has perfect examples of alliteration, assonance, and consonance which students often need to practice. The theme resonates with youth, too.

8. Juan Felipe Herrera. "Let Me Tell You What a Poem Brings," symbolism.

Juan Felipe Herrera is still writing poetry and winning awards. Students always like reading modern works and note that a writer is still alive. (This fact makes me laugh.) Students will also appreciate that elements in this poem could symbolize various parts of their lives.

9. Sara Teasdale: "There Will Come Soft Rains," assonance.

This poem is in Bradbury's short story, but teach it with any story about war. Teasdale was an American writer, and her work fits nicely into an American literature curriculum. Teasdale uses assonance, but students will recognize other elements as well.

10. Lord Tennyson: "Morte d'Arthur," onomatopoeia.

First, this is a fun poem. "Ripple" and "lapping" are examples of onomatopoeia. Finally, the poem is long, and I often jigsaw it with a class.