



AUTHOR STUDY:

DISCOVERING THE LIVES BEHIND THE WORDS



Researching the Lives and Words of Poets

WHAT IS AN AUTHOR STUDY?

An author study is a chance to learn more about a poet and their work.

During this project, you will:

- **Learn about the poet's life:** What happened to them and how it shaped their poetry.
- **Explore their themes:** What ideas do they write about (e.g., family, nature, or feelings)?
- **Look closely at one poem:** What does it mean, and how does it make you feel?

Purpose: Understand the connection between a poet's life and their poetry.

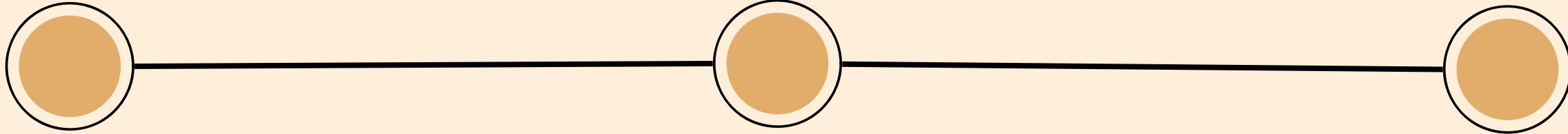
WHY STUDY POETS?

- Poetry uses creative words to express ideas and emotions.
- Poets often write about their experiences and the world around them.



- By studying poets, you can:
 - Learn more about important themes and ideas.
 - Understand how words can paint pictures and create feelings.

HOW TO CHOOSE A POET



STEP 1: THINK ABOUT YOUR INTERESTS

- Do you enjoy poems about nature, adventure, or family?
- Do you like poems that rhyme or free verse that tells a story?

STEP 2: RESEARCH POETS

- Explore poets from different backgrounds and styles.
 - Maya Angelou (powerful and inspiring poems)
 - Langston Hughes (poems about dreams and life in America)
 - Emily Dickinson (poems about nature and imagination)
 - Kwame Alexander (modern poems about life and sports)

STEP 3: NARROW YOUR CHOICES

- Choose someone whose poems you like and want to learn more about.

GETTING STARTED WITH RESEARCH

Step 1: Learn About the Poet's Life

- Where did they grow up?
- What events or experiences inspired their poetry?

Step 2: Choose a Poem to Analyze

- Select one of their most famous or favorite poems.
- Ask: What is the poem about, and how does it make you feel?

Step 3: Use Reliable Sources

- Find books, articles, or websites with accurate information.
- Ask your teacher or librarian for help if needed.



THE CRAAP METHOD FOR EVALUATING RESOURCES

CRAAP helps you evaluate the quality of your sources.

Currency: Is the information up-to-date?

- When was it published or last updated?

Relevance: Does it relate to your research?

- Is it detailed and appropriate for your grade level?

Authority: Who is the author or publisher?

- Are they credible or experts on the topic?

Accuracy: Is the information true?

- Are there sources cited? Does it match other reliable information?

Purpose: Why was it written?

- Is it to inform, persuade, or sell something? Look for bias.

Tip: Double-check your sources before using them in your paper.

RESEARCH PAPER BREAKDOWN

- **Introduction**
 - Tell us the poet's name and why they're important.
- **Biography**
 - Write about their life story. Include details like where they lived and what inspired their poetry.
- **Poem Analysis**
 - Pick one poem:
 - What is it about?
 - What feelings or ideas does it share?
 - How does the poet use words to create meaning?
- **Conclusion**
 - Why is this poet's work important?

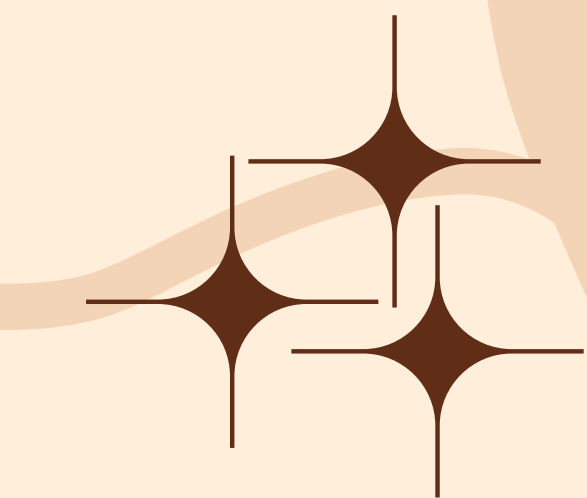


TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

Reliable Sources: Use library databases, books, and trusted websites.

Organize Your Notes: Write down key details under categories like "Biography" and "Poetry Themes."

Ask for Help: Ms. Martocello or your local librarian can guide you if you're unsure where to start.






HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

Pick Your Poet and Find One Source

- 1. Choose a poet you'd like to study.**
- 2. Find one source about them (a book, article, or credible website).**
- 3. Write down the source information (title, author, URL, etc.) and submit via google form.**
- 4. Be ready to share your poet choice and source in class next week.**



EXAMPLES OF POETS

Here are some poets to consider for your study:

Classic Poets

- William Wordsworth
- Emily Dickinson
- Langston Hughes
- Robert Frost
- Gwendolyn Brooks

Contemporary Poets

- Amanda Gorman
- Rupi Kaur
- Joy Harjo
- Naomi Shihab Nye
- Kwame Alexander

Tip: Explore poets from different backgrounds, styles, and time periods to find someone inspiring!

QUESTIONS?

