



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)?
- Pick your favorite poem by the poet and share why you love it.

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

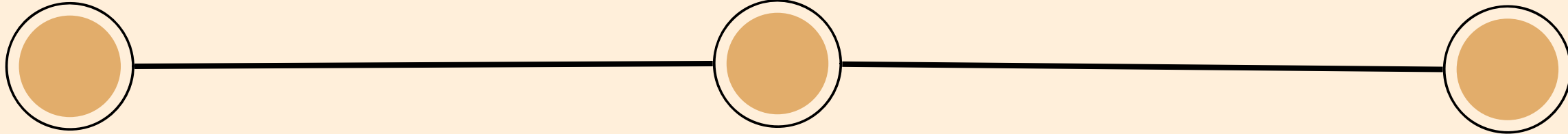
WHY STUDY POETS?

- 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 do you think inspired them to write poetry?

Step 2: Pick a favorite poem

- Review a few poems by your poet
- Choose your favorite poem and think about why you like it and what it is talking about

Step 3: Use Good sources

- Is the author or website trustworthy?
- Is the information clear and easy to understand?
- Does it give you facts about the poet?



WHAT YOUR PROJECT WILL LOOK LIKE

Introduction

- Tell us the poet's name and why you chose them.

Biography

- Share a few interesting facts about the poet's life
 - Where did they grow up? and what inspired them?

Your favorite poem

- Tell us about your favorite poem from the author and why you chose it.
 - What is the poem about?
 - When was it written?
 - Why do you like it?

PRESENT YOUR PROJECT

Choose which way you're presenting the information you've found

- Paper – write out what you found in a multi-paragraph essay
- Poster – Make a colorful poster with pictures, facts, and the poem
- PowerPoint – Create a slideshow with slides about the poet and the poem

Be creative! Talk to Ms. Martocello if you have another idea!

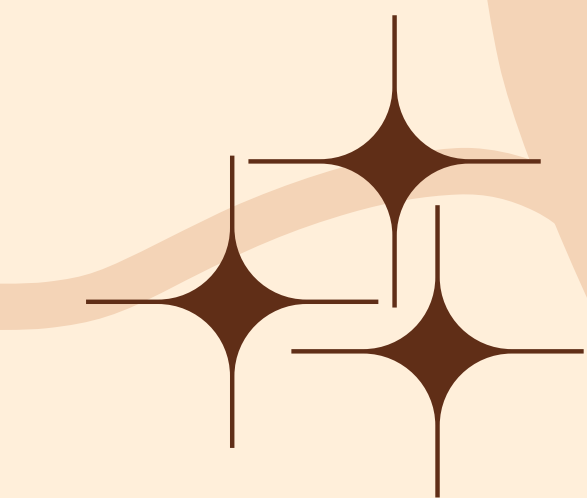


TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

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

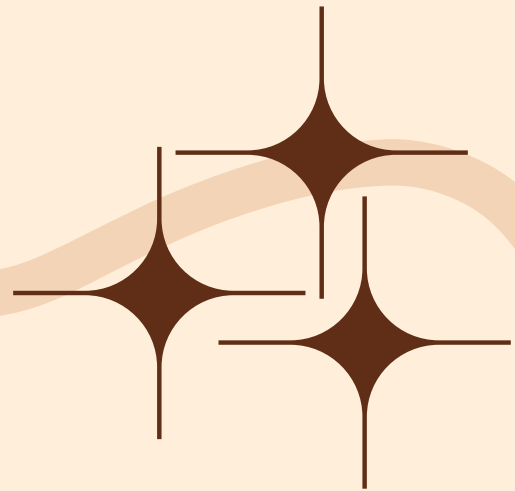
- William Wordsworth
- Emily Dickinson
- Langston Hughes
- Robert Frost
- Gwendolyn Brooks

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?



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