

## **CONNECTING WITH POETRY PROJECT # 4**

### **MUSIC AND LANGUAGE ARTS**

#### **MAKING FUN, GENTLY: INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING A PARODY**

Choose a poem that you wish to parody. That means you want to mimic the poem and gently make fun of it.

To make fun of it you will need to decide on the mood and topic of the original poem and then do the opposite. If it is serious you may want to write something funny. If it is funny, you may want to write something which sounds serious. If it is about a boy, you may want to write about a girl. If it is about an animal, you may want to write about a person. A grown-up can be changed to a child or vice versa.

To mimic the poem you will need to know some of the technical things about it. One is the rhyme scheme. Look to see which lines of the poem rhyme. Your poem will need the same. Make a plan of the rhythm of each line using A and U for accented syllables and U for unaccented syllables.

Make a list of all the words you can think of about the new topic. If you need rhymes in the poem, choose some of the best words and make rhyming lists for them. Choose the rhyming words that will make the most sense. Draw out the lines for the new poem and position rhyming words where you need them.

Now write a first draft of your parody using the same rhythm and rhyme scheme as the original poem. Be sure to include the title.

Try reading the parody and the original out loud to see if the new poem sounds similar to the original. Make any adjustments you need. Have someone else compare the two poems as well to see if they can spot any problems.

When you make a final draft of your parody, below the new title, put in the "after" and the title and author of the original in brackets. At the end, put your own name and the date.

Share your parody with others in some way. Post it on a bulletin board. Read it to a friend. Read it to a group. Have it published in a newsletter or anthology.

#### **POINTS FOR FOCUS AND EVALUATION:**

1. Did you determine an opposite mood, topic or character for your parody?
2. Did you determine the rhyme scheme for the poem?
3. Did you determine the rhythm pattern for the poem?
4. Did you make a list of words about your topic? If needed, did you make a list of rhyming words for the best of words of your topic list? If you made a rhyming list, did you choose the rhyming words that would make the most sense for your poem?
5. Did you write a first draft?
6. Did you read aloud the original and your parody to compare? Did you make necessary adjustments? Did you have someone else compare them and point out any places for improvement?

7. Did you make a final draft including the author and title of the original and your name?

8. Did you share your parody in some way?

9. If you worked with a partner did you cooperate to get the job done well and on time? What could you have done to make the job easier or the result better?