



Prestwick House
Activity Pack™

Sample



Prestwick House

Activity Pack
Literature Made Fun!

Click here
to learn more
about this
Activity Pack!



Click here
to find more
Classroom Resources
for this title!



Prestwick House

More from Prestwick House

Literature

Literary Touchstone Classics
Literature Teaching Units

Grammar and Writing

College and Career Readiness: Writing
Grammar for Writing

Vocabulary

Vocabulary Power Plus
Vocabulary from Latin and Greek Roots

Reading

Reading Informational Texts
Reading Literature



Prestwick House
Activity Pack
Literature Made Fun!



***I Know Why the
Caged Bird Sings***

BY MAYA ANGELOU



Prestwick House

Copyright © 2005 by Prestwick House, Inc., P.O. Box 658, Clayton, DE 19938.
1-800-932-4593 • www.prestwickhouse.com

Permission to copy this unit for classroom use is extended to purchaser for his or her personal use. This material, in whole or part, may not be copied for resale.

ISBN 978-1-60389-245-2

Item No. 201587

Table of Contents

Pre-Reading	
Research	4
Introduction	
Identity	6
Theme and Motif	8
Chapter 1	
Point of View	12
Characterization	14
Setting	20
Exposition	22
Introduction and Chapters 1-3	
Literary Terms	24
Chapters 1-3	
Symbolism	26
Chapter 3	
Motif	28
Chapter 4	
Characterization	30
Chapter 5	
Conflict and Characterization	32
Chapter 6	
Imagery	34
Comparison	42
Chapter 7	
Characterization	44
Chapter 8	
Identity	46
Chapters 8-9	
Crisis	48
Characterization	52
Chapter 10	
Tempo	56

Chapter 11	
Motivation . . . . .	.58
Motif . . . . .	.60
Chapters 10-12	
Foreshadowing . . . . .	.64
Chapter 12	
Rising Action . . . . .	.68
Chapter 13	
Writing a Newspaper Article . . . . .	.70
Chapters 12-13	
Religion . . . . .	.72
Chapter 14	
Writing an Obituary . . . . .	.74
Chapters 13-14	
Found Poems . . . . .	.76
Chapter 15	
Dramatic Recitation . . . . .	.78
Dialect . . . . .	.80
Chapter 16	
Identity . . . . .	.82
Poetic Justice . . . . .	.84
Chapter 17	
Stereotyping . . . . .	.86
Chapter 18	
Perspective . . . . .	.88
Chapter 19	
Symbolism . . . . .	.92
Chapter 20	
Communication . . . . .	.94
Chapters 20-21	
Advice Columns . . . . .	.96
Chapter 22	
Creative Writing . . . . .	.98

Chapter 23	
Milestones	100
Stereotype and Identity	102
Chapter 24	
Hyperbole	104
Irony	106
Chapter 25-26	
Mother Figures	108
Chapters 27-28	
Comprehension	110
Chapters 30-31	
Characterization	112
Chapter 32	
Imagery	114
Metamorphosis	116
Chapters 33-36	
Coming of Age	118
Wrap-Up	
Characterization	124
Comparison	126
Title	128
Appendix	
Terms and Definitions	130
Small Group Learning	133
Newspaper	138
Writing Poems	140
Directions for a Debate	142
Dramatization of Scenes in the Novel	143
Sample Questions for Comprehension Activity	144

Name: _____

Date: _____

Introduction

Identity

Objective: Understanding Ms. Angelou's view of herself

Activity

In a flashback, Ms. Angelou remembers an embarrassing incident in church as a child. She fantasizes that she is a beautiful, blond haired, blue-eyed, white child wearing a fancy dress. She feels that being beautiful and white would make everything right in her world. This is in stark contrast to how she sees herself: a “too-big negro girl, with nappy black hair, broad feet and a space between her teeth that would hold a number-two pencil.” (Pg. 3)

Using an 11 x 14 inch poster board, create a portrait of yourself. The portrait should depict you as you see yourself, not as you think others see you. Write a paragraph explaining your picture, and how these images have affected you. You may use any materials available to you including: pencils, pens, crayon, markers, paint, food, computer-generated images, fabric, and magazines—whatever you can find that creates the image you want. You should also include symbols that represent your interests. For example, if you play tennis, include a tennis racket in your portrait.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 3**Motif****Objective:** Exploring the motif of racism**Activity**

Ms. Angelou talks about what she would say to St. Peter on Judgment Day if asked to give a testimonial to the sheriff's "kindness." Ms. Angelou feels the sheriff is just as much racist as the Klan. Both are symbols of hatred and racism.

What does the sheriff do or say to make Ms. Angelou feel this way? As a class, discuss the ways the sheriff shows he is racist. Then discuss his act of kindness.

Imagine you are St. Peter on judgment day. Debate whether or not the sheriff should be allowed into Heaven. Take a vote at the end of the debate to determine his fate.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 6**Comparison****Objective:** Understanding the role of religion in the life of a Southern Fundamentalist**Activity**

Religion in the South at that time was the backbone of people's lives. Ms. Angelou relates an amusing anecdote about a church service gone out of control. Southern Fundamentalist churches are known for their high-energy services.

Compare the fervor of the church service Ms. Angelou described with a service of another religion. What are the similarities? What are the differences? Is one religion more devout than another? Choose a religion you would like to use as a comparison. You must be either very familiar with the religion you choose, or research it through sources such as family members, friends, clergy, the library, the Internet, or actually attending a service.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 13

Writing a Newspaper Article

Objective: Identifying dramatic moments and relating them in the manner of a newspaper

Activity

Mr. Freeman's trial and mysterious death draw a morbid fascination to the trial from the people of St. Louis. It was an event that would have drawn headlines from the local newspapers.

Write a front-page newspaper article on the events of the trial and Mr. Freeman's death.

Write the story in the factual, detached, unbiased style commonly used by newspaper reporters. The article must contain the following elements:

- A bold headline that sums up the content of the article.
- The first paragraph should contain the basic facts: who, what, where, why, when, and how.
- The subsequent paragraphs should logically and honestly add detail and substance to the story for readers who want more information.
- The last paragraph should indicate how this event was resolved.
- Include at least one quote from a character in the novel.