



Objective:

1. The students will be able to listen and respond to poetry.
2. The students will become familiar with poet John Willis Menard.

Sunshine State Standards Benchmarks:

LA.C.1.2.1 – LA.D.2.2.2 – LA.E.1.2.1

Vocabulary:

woes amortalcloak amid cease

Suggested Activities:

1. Have the students read the poem aloud as a choral reading, assigning certain groups of students to the different sections. The students can also add some hand or body movements to the reading of the poem.
2. Ask the students to explain the author's purpose for writing this poem in their daily journal. Have them support their explanations using specific information from the poem as evidence.
3. Have the students illustrate the poem. The illustrations should include some of the details mentioned in the poem (e.g., box cars, logs, bugs, etc.).
4. Have the students create an I am card for John Willis Menard. Provide each student with a 9 x 6 piece of construction paper, yarn, and markers or crayons. The students are to draw a picture of John Willis Menard in the center of the paper (or write his name). Then have them decorate the card with facts about him and illustrations. When the cards are complete, have the students make the cards into necklaces by punching two holes at the top corners and attaching the yarn. The students can wear the I am cards as they tell about the famous poet.
5. Complete and review FCAT questions.

(Note: Actual FCAT practice passages are written at the students' independent reading level. These Florida History selections are written at the students' instructional reading level. Therefore, students should not be asked to complete the questions until after receiving class instruction on the vocabulary and content of the passage. Students should also read the Florida History selection independently before answering the FCAT questions and be permitted to return to the selection for rereading as they answer.)