Poetry Unit Map

1. Why do people read and write poetry?
2. What is the purpose or theme of a poem and how does an author express it?
3. What choices does a poet make when crafting a poem?
4. How does the author’s craft serve the purpose of the poem?

**Genre**

* What type of poem is this?
* Why did the author choose this genre?

**Subject**

* What is the poem literally about?
* What’s happening in the poem?
* What was the writer’s purpose for writing this poem?
* Was he/she trying to express a message? If so, what was the message?

**Literary Devices**

* Do you notice any literary devices like metaphor, hyperbole, repetition etc?
* Why might the author have chosen to include those devices?
* How do the literary devices serve the purpose of the poem?

**Author’s Craft**

* What aspects of author’s craft do you notice?
* How do they serve the author’s purpose or theme?

**Tone**

* What is the speaker’s tone (attitude) towards the subject?
* What words did the author choose to reveal the tone?

**Structure**

* What do you notice about the structure of the poem? Line breaks? Stanzas? Rhyme scheme? Meter?
* Does it reveal anything about the tone, purpose or theme?

**Speaker and Audience**

* This is not necessarily the poet!
* Who is the speaker of this poem? What do you know about him/her? Is it unclear?
* Who is the speaker’s audience? Can you tell?
* Do you have any theories about what the speaker’s purpose might be?

**Title**

* Read the poem multiple times and consider the title.
* What information does the title gives us about the poem?
* What might the poet want us to be thinking about?