

Phillis Wheatley, Young Revolutionary Poet
WebQuest: Poetic Events

Introduction

Phillis Wheatley wrote poems about important events that were happening during her life time. You will learn more about some of those events and then write your own poem about one event in her life time that interests you the most. Then you will write a poem about something that is happening in the world today.

Process

Step 1

You will need a journal or other notebook to take notes as you go to each Web site listed below.

Step 2

Visit some or all of the American History Web sites to learn more about things that were happening during Phillis's life time. Then visit some or all of the Current Events Web sites to learn about things that are happening today.

Web Sites:

American History

- [Timeline: America During the Age of Revolution, 1764-1775](#)
- [Kidport Reference Library: The Boston Tea Party](#)
- [The History Place](#)

Current Events

- [Time for Kids \(News\)](#)
- [Yahooligans! News](#)
- [Kids Post: News](#)

Step 3

Re-read the three selections from Phillis's poems at the end of Chapters 7, 8, and 10.

Step 4

Write a poem that uses descriptive words to tell about something that happened during Phillis's life time. Write the poem as if you were also living in the 1700s, and the event had just happened or was just about to happen. (Even though Phillis wrote poems that rhymed, your poem does not have to rhyme.) Write a title for your poem.

Step 5

Write a poem that uses descriptive words to tell about something that is happening in the world now, during in your own life time. Remember to use your words to

communicate ideas or feelings. Your poem does not have to rhyme. Write a title for your poem.

Step 6

Check your poems and titles for spelling and punctuation errors. Make all the necessary corrections, then read your poems aloud to the class.

Conclusion: Things to Think About

In the story, we learn a little about what inspired Phillis to write each of her poems. What inspired you to write yours?