

Welcome to Thinkport's Student Activity Center! Your teacher has directed you to this student activity to help you learn more about the topic you are studying.

Title: Bells, Bells and More Bells

Audience: Middle

Duration: 50 Minutes

Subject Area(s):

Language Arts

Grade Level(s): 6,7,8,9

Student Directions:

How can voices, music and sound effects enhance the telling of Poe's poem "The Bells"? Find out as you control the soundboard and select the voices, music and sound effects while you experience Poe's poem.

Optional:

Drawing paper

Colored pencils or markers

Directions: As you listen to Poe (John Astin) describe how music and melodic sounds are related to poetry, you are to decide if you agree with the statement, "Music with a pleasurable idea is poetry." Later when you listen to "The Bells," you will determine how listening to the melodic sounds and the rhythm of the words can help explain what a poem is about. Go to The Bells Web page and listen to the John Astin video segment. As you listen to the Bells and Poe (John Astin) describe how music and melodic sounds are related to poetry. After viewing the clip, you are to decide if you agree with the statement, "Music with a pleasurable idea is poetry." Next, listen to the "The Bells," making sure to experiment with the voice, sound effects and music as you listen to the poem. Decide if listening to the sounds and rhythm of the words of the poem can tell you a great deal about the poem that you might not have learned by simply reading it.

The Bells This unique Web page allows you to manipulate a soundboard in order to add voice, music and sound effects to Poe's poem "The Bells."

<http://knowingpoe.thinkport.org/writer/thebells.asp>

Can listening to the melodic sounds and the rhythm of the words of a poem really tell you more about the poem than just reading it?

Directions: Now you will choose, or be assigned, one stanza of the poem to listen to again. Click the Bells, Bells, Bells Worksheet below and complete it to help you determine the tone of the stanza. Listen to the poem a few more times as you complete the worksheet. After you have completed the worksheet, consider how the words Poe's words create the sounds and images that influence the tone of the stanza.

Bells, Bells, Bells Worksheet ([View](#))

Directions: You may choose to complete the activities outlined below.

Extension Activity

After you have completed the worksheet, listen to the stanza again and freely draw a picture that represents the tone of the stanza using blank pieces of paper and colored pencils.

Write a three-stanza school bell poem that describes how you feel when you hear the morning, lunch and closing bells at your school.

Remember to use language sounds and sensory details to help create the tone of your poem.

After you have completed the poem, record the poem using music and sound effects to enhance the poem.

Activity Signature

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