

Words That Matter:

Understanding Different Genres of Text

In this lesson, students will discover the importance of reading and writing, especially in the form of poetry, by reading an article about Ricardo Alberto Maldonado, the president of the Academy of American Poets.

Grade: 3		Subject: ELA
Focus Standard(s)	<p>3RI: Develop and answer questions to locate relevant and specific details in a text to support an answer or inference.</p> <p>3R9: Recognize genres and make connections to other texts, ideas, cultural perspectives, eras, personal events, and situations.</p> <p>3.SL2 Determine the central ideas and supporting details or information presented in diverse texts and formats (e.g., including visual, quantitative, and oral).</p>	
Learning Objective(s)	<p>Students will be able to determine the supporting details of information presented in diverse texts and formats.</p> <p>Students will be able to recognize that the text is written in an interview format and make connections to cultural perspectives of the interviewee.</p>	
Materials/Resources	<p>"Poetry Is for Everybody"</p>	
Vocabulary	<p>Invest: put in effort in order to get more back in the future; accompanied: joined; vibrant: bright, lively; necessity: need</p>	
Essential Question(s)	<p>What can poetry do for you? How can you use words to express yourself?</p>	
Anticipatory Set	<p>Share with students that today they will be reading an article about Ricardo Alberto Maldonado, the president of the Academy of American Poets. He is a poet from Puerto Rico. Invite students to share anything they know about Puerto Rico or the Spanish language.</p>	
Mini-lesson/Guided Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain to students that this article is actually an interview. The author or reporter asks a question and then the person being interviewed (Maldonado) responds. • Ask students to identify each question. How do they know it's a question and not an answer? (questions are in bold with NOM (News-O-Matic) in italics) • Read the opening paragraph and point out the importance of Maldonado's role. (first Hispanic person to be the president of the Academy of American Poets) • Have students identify the first question asked by News-O-Matic and the answer Maldonado gave. 	
Independent Practice	<p>Students will continue reading the interview in pairs. One partner reads the interviewer's question and the other reads the response. Have pairs switch roles and repeat the reading. After students are finished reading, have them answer the accompanying News-O-Matic article questions.</p>	
Closure	<p>Maldonado expresses the importance of reading and writing poetry. Lead a class discussion on how Maldonado uses words to express himself.</p>	
Differentiation	<p>Adjust lexile® levels as needed; answer questions as a whole group; use accessibility features or read-to-me feature as needed; print copies of article</p>	