Standards Focus

Objectives

Students will

- understand and analyze lyric poetry
- analyze symbolism and figures of speech
- use strategies to read and analyze a poem

Motivate

What Do You Think?/QuickWrite

Have students use their **Reader/Writer Notebooks** to write questions that can help them evaluate the beauty, meaning, and importance of places, things, and ideas they encounter.

Academic Vocabulary

Look for opportunities to use the Academic Vocabulary words in this collection.

- **associations, *n.:*** connections in the mind between different things
- **evoke, *v.:*** draw out; elicit
- **intent, *n.:*** purpose; plan; aim
- **interpretation, *n.:*** explanation of the meaning

Analyzing Visuals

Activity Ask students whether they find something beautiful, meaningful, or important in the image. ***Possible response:*** *The movement and colors of the people are beautiful.*

Poetry and Feeling



Blue Riot (detail) by TAFA. Oil on canvas (30" x 40"). Courtesy of the artist.

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Birdfoot's Grampa
by Joseph Bruchac
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My Mother Pieced Quilts
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Sweater / Suéter
by Alberto Forcada
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A word is dead
by Emily Dickinson
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The Word / La palabra
by Manuel Ulacia
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What Do You Think? What makes something beautiful? meaningful? important?

QuickWrite
What do you find beautiful? Is there something that gives special meaning to your life? Is there an object that is especially important to you? Write down your ideas.

SKILLS FOCUS pp. 682–688

Literary Skills
- Understand the characteristics of lyric poetry.
- Analyze a lyric poem.
- Analyze diction.

Reading Skills
- Use strategies to read and analyze a poem.

Writing Skills
- Write a lyric poem.
- Use sensory details.

Selection Readability	
Easily Accessible **Accessible** Challenging	These poems contain everyday language, conversational tones, and familiar subjects.
Lexile	**N/A**

Selection Summaries

In "Birdfoot's Grampa," a grandfather shows his reverence for life by stopping to save toads from the wet roadway.

In "Valentine for Ernest Mann," the speaker implores readers to find poems in the beauty of everyday objects and moments.