

Lesson Plan

The Right Rhyme

Book: *Lizzo*

Series: Biggest Names in Music

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students explore the language conventions of rhyming and rap.

Supplies

- *Lizzo* book
- Timer
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Read through the *Lizzo* book, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

When Lizzo first started making music, she wrote all of her own songs. She included rapping in many of them. Rapping often relies on a series of rhymes. Lizzo was able to think up rhymes quickly. This helped her be good at freestyle rap. In this style of rap, people make up the lyrics as they go.

Have students test their own rhyming skills with the following activity. Ask students to take out a piece of paper and a pencil. Have students write the word *free* at the top of the page.

Then set the timer. Give students 2 minutes to write down as many rhymes for that word as they can think of. It may be helpful to tell students to think of slant rhymes as well. Slant rhymes are words that almost rhyme, but are slightly off. For example, *fish* could be a slant rhyme for *itch*. Other examples are *pop* and *rock*, or *cat* and *bad*.

Once students have a list of rhymes, ask them to use as many of the rhymes as they can to tell a story. This story can be serious or silly. Give students a few minutes to write their sentences. Then invite a few volunteers to raise their hands and share what they've written.

Evaluation

Could students make a list of rhymes and slant rhymes? Did they use those rhymes in their stories?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' language standards, grade 5 (L 5.3).