**SLAM Poems Like A Pro!**

**Step 1**
Read the title and the poem. **CAREFULLY! Just read it!**

**Step 2**
Read the poem again! This time use **SLAM** to help you “unpack” or analyze the meaning of the poem. Annotate the poem underlining and circling phrases and code the margins with the **SLAM** letters. Don’t forget to also include margin notes to record your thinking!

**Step 3**
Finally, remember that some components of **SLAM** will be more important in one poem than another. Pay close attention to what is important in this poem.

| **Structure** | How are the line breaks structured?  
|              | How are the stanzas organized?  
|              | Is there punctuation? What does it look like?  
|              | How does the structure affect the meaning of the poem? |
| **Language** | Is there **figurative language** present? (simile, metaphor, alliteration, hyperbole, onomatopoeia, personification)  
|              | Are there **sound devices** present? (rhythm, rhyme, repetition)  
|              | Is there **sensory language** in the poem? |
| **Affect**   | **Mood** - How does the poem make you feel? What emotions are evoked because of the language being used?  
|              | **Tone** - How does the author feel or want you to feel when you read the poem? |
| **Meaning**  | What is the **subject** of the poem? (What is the poem mainly about?)  
|              | Is there **symbolism**? What is the deeper meaning of the symbols used in the poem?  
|              | What is the central message or **theme** of the poem?  
|              | Why is the **title** important and how does it set the context of the poem? |

- Created By John DePasquale For Classroom Use