Langston Hughes was a famous African American poet. Jacob Lawrence knew him and even illustrated some of Hughes’s poems, including “One-Way Ticket.” Read “One-Way Ticket,” which, like The Migration Series, is about moving.

**One-Way Ticket**
by Langston Hughes, 1949

I pick up my life
And take it with me
And I put it down in
Chicago, Detroit,
Buffalo, Scranton,
Any place that is
North and East—
And not Dixie.

I pick up my life
And take it on the train
To Los Angeles, Bakersfield,
Seattle, Oakland, Salt Lake,
Any place that is
North and West—
But not South.

I am fed up
With Jim Crow laws,
People who are cruel
And afraid.

Who lynch and run,
Who are scared of me
And me of them.

I pick up my life
And take it away
On a one-way ticket—
Gone up North,
Gone out West,
Gone!

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**Rhythm in Poetry**

Poems, like songs, have rhythm and a beat. Poets sometimes repeat words or lines to help make a pattern so you can hear this rhythm.

What line or words does Hughes repeat in the poem to create a pattern and rhythm?

Why do you think that he repeats this line?

**Mood in Poetry**

Poets can also create a mood in their poems, to make you feel a certain way when you read them.

A poem can have a happy, upbeat mood, or it can have a sad, slow mood, depending on the words and sounds the poet chooses.

Mood: What kind of mood does the poem have? What feeling do you get when you read it?

Why?

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Worksheet 8
Rhythm in Art

Art can also have rhythm! Jacob Lawrence painted with a lot of repeated patterns, to make figures appear to be moving.

Look closely at the panels from *The Migration Series*. What does Lawrence repeat in his panels to make a pattern or a rhythm? The same shape? Color? Person? .................................................................

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Mood in Art

Art can have a mood too! Artists can use color or shapes to create a mood. Blue might mean sad. Jagged lines might mean excitement.

What mood do you feel when you look at *The Migration Series*? Is there one overall mood, or are there different moods from panel to panel?

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Can you find one example of
An “excited” panel? ........................................
A “sad” panel? ..............................................
A “hopeful” panel? .........................................

How does Lawrence create these moods? Through color? Line? Explain:

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