

Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Dayton Aviation Heritage
National Historical Park



Dunbar House Junior Ranger Program



Junior Ranger Instructions



We Wear The Mask

We wear the mask that grins and lies,
It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes,--
This debt we pay to human guile;
With torn and bleeding hearts we smile,

And mouth with myriad subtleties.
Why should the world be over-wise,
In counting all our tears and sighs?
Nay, let them only see us, while
 We wear the mask.

We smile, but, O great Christ, our cries
To thee from tortured souls arise.
We sing, but oh the clay is vile
Beneath our feet, and long the mile;
But let the world dream otherwise,
 We wear the mask!

Paul Laurence Dunbar, 1895

Hello, Junior Ranger! Welcome to the Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site. The activities in this booklet will help inform you about the life and times of Paul Laurence Dunbar.

Children ages six through eight may need family assistance with this Junior Ranger booklet. If any questions or activities prove to be too difficult, feel free to ask a staff member for help.

Ages six through eight are encouraged to complete six activities to earn a Junior Ranger badge.

Ages nine through twelve are encouraged to complete ten activities to earn a Junior Ranger badge.

Once completed, bring your booklet to the front desk. We will review your answers, and you will be awarded a Junior Ranger badge for your hard work. Remember, the more activities you are able to complete, the wiser you will be!

Name: _____



Activity Checklist

- Junior Ranger Responsibility
- Transportation
- NPS Arrowhead
- African Americans in Dayton
- Dunbar Fill-in-the-Fact
- Postage Stamp
- Dunbar Word Search & Bonus Question
- Dayton Walk of Fame
- Poetry: Dialect
- Dunbar House: Floor Plan
- Poetry: Writing
- Dunbar House: Similarities & Differences
- Geography
- Be Your Own Historian!

Junior Ranger Responsibility

Explore. Learn. Protect. Junior Rangers explore national parks in order to learn about them. By learning what makes each park special, Junior Rangers discover how to help protect them for the future.

As a Junior Ranger, it is your responsibility to help take care of our national parks. Answer the following questions with “yes” or “no” and then explain your answer.

Does a Junior Ranger recycle?

Why?

Can a Junior Ranger learn more about events in history?

Where?

Are Junior Rangers creative?

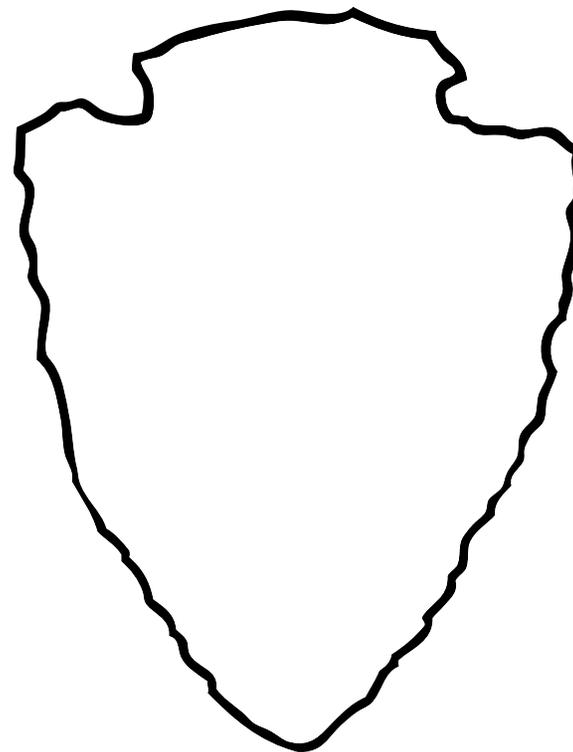
Why?

Does a Junior Ranger respect nature and other visitors?

Why?

NPS Arrowhead

The Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site is part of the National Park System. Find an arrowhead in the park or on this book to complete the activity.



Draw the National Park Service Arrowhead using the outline above.

Match the symbols with their meanings below:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| __ Sequoia tree | A. Wildlife |
| __ Bison | B. History & archaeology |
| __ Mountains, water | C. Vegetation |
| __ Arrowhead (shape) | D. Scenery & recreation |

Paul Laurence Dunbar

Paul Laurence Dunbar was the first African American writer to gain national and international recognition. During his lifetime he wrote poetry, short stories, novels, plays, essays and song lyrics.

Fill in the following facts about Paul using the information in the museum, and then find the words in the word search on the right. Once done, the leftover letters that are not circled will help you answer two bonus questions!

- Paul Laurence Dunbar was born on June 27, 1872 in Dayton, Ohio, to former slaves _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _.
- While still in high school, Paul published his first poem in the _ _ _ _ _ and attempted a paper of his own called the _ _ _ _ _.
- He graduated with distinction from _ _ _ _ _ High School in 1891.
- After facing racial discrimination out of high school, Paul took a job as an _ _ _ _ _ operator at the _ _ _ _ _ Building.
- _ _ _ and _ _ _ was his first published work, printed when Paul was twenty.
- Paul became nationally known with a review in *Harper's Weekly* by _ _ _ _ _ of his poetry collection _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _.
- In March of 1898, Paul married _ _ _ _ _.
- On February 9, 1906 Paul died at age 33 in his Dayton home from _ _ _ _ _.
- Additional words to find: African American, poetry, novel, essay, write, read, recite

W I L L I A M H O W E L L S N
A W S I J M L E V O N D D A D
L L L I I O K A O I A A C M A
A M I N S T S R A Y E I V A Y
I S O C M O U H T R R R P J T
H R Y R E O L O U E B A W O O
S O E P R R N U M A D T R R N
S T M A O H U A C L L L I S T
M A U R E E N T I R P H T Y A
E V Y R L A T T H I E Z E A T
B E A V C E A R T M H B F L T
O L R I I M E N Y C O E U D L
D E R C E N T R A L U O N T E
B F E S S A Y E T I C E R A R
A K N A B N A H A L L A C E R

Bonus Questions (found with leftover word search letters):

Paul had two older half brothers. What were their names?
_ _ _ _ _ and
_ _ _ _ _

Paul also had a baby sister who died when he was almost four years old. What was her name?

_ _ _ _ _

Poetry

Paul wrote novels, lyrics, and even musicals, but he is best known for his poetry. He wrote over four hundred poems in both Standard English and dialect.

Below is the stanza of Paul's poem "A Death Song" that appears on his grave in Woodland Cemetery. It is written in dialect. Can you rewrite it to your own words on the lines below?

Dialect:

Lay me down beneaf de willers in de grass,
Whah de branch 'll go a-singin' as it pass.
An' w'en I 's a-layin' low,
I kin hyeah it as it go
Singin', "Sleep, my honey, tek yo' res' at las'."

Your version:

Which one do you like?

Why?

Paul was rhyming at age six and had been writing poetry for several years before his first public recital at age twelve.

Now you try! Use the space below to write your own poem. Don't know what to write a poem about? Try writing one about your visit to the Paul Laurence Dunbar House.



Paul's works are meant to be listened to as well as read. Your poem may sound different read out loud. Share your poem with a ranger or volunteer and ask them to read it! What was different?

Geography

Due to his career and ongoing illness, Paul traveled frequently. Unscramble the letters to find out some of the places he visited, then answer the questions.



Unscramble the following words to see where Paul lived:

I	O	H	O	N	L	I	O	S	I	L	I			
D	I	A	N	I	N	A	E	W	N	K	O	Y	R	
L	N	E	G	D	A	N	O	C	R	L	A	O	D	O
S	I	N	T	N	W	A	H	O	G	C	D			

Can you find these on the map above? If so, shade them in.

Where have you travelled?

Transportation

Paul traveled frequently, but in the early 1900s transportation technology wasn't where it is today. Help Paul get where he is going by circling the method of transportation he should take for each activity.

Paul wants to get out and explore his neighborhood. Which one should he choose?



Paul is going to England with the help of his manager to promote his poetry. How should he get there?



Due to illness, Paul's doctors are recommending that he go to Colorado. How should he get there?



Paul has been asked to ride in President McKinley's inaugural parade. What should he use?



While living in Colorado, Paul bought a horse named Old Sukey. Old Sukey was the inspiration for the poem Dat Ol' Mare O' Mine.

African Americans in Dayton

Postage Stamp

Paul is considered to be the first African American to make a living from writing. Who were some other Dayton trailblazers and innovators?

Using the word bank and clues below, match these Daytonians with what they accomplished first in the city.

*Louise Troy | William Jenkins | Warner Jackson
Joe Crowder & Jacob Musgrave | William Burns*

We were the first documented African Americans to own a business.

I was the first African American teacher to teach in an integrated school.

I was the first African American dentist.

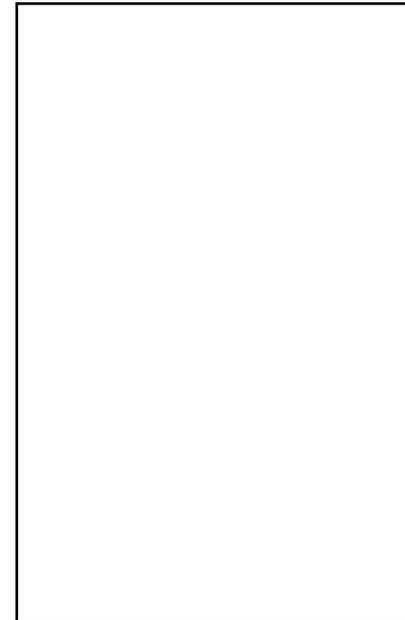
I was the first African American doctor that was professionally trained.
I was also a close friend of Paul.

I was the first African American appointed to the police department.

During his travels, Paul wrote home often. He also wrote letters to friends throughout the nation. In 1975, a postage stamp was issued honoring Paul.



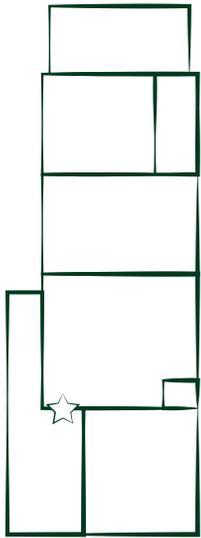
On the left is the stamp designed in honor of Paul. Design your own stamp to make a tribute to something you feel is significant. The stamp can be any style you choose. Get creative!



Along West Third Street is Dayton's Walk of Fame. Paul has a tile outside of the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center on South Williams Street. Who else do you think deserves a tile? Why?

The Dunbar House

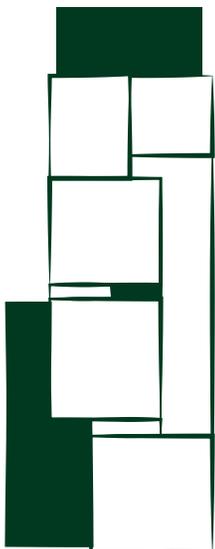
Dunbar purchased the house on Summit Street (now Paul Laurence Dunbar Street) for his mother in 1904. She lived here until her death in 1936.



☆ Front door

Find and label the following rooms on the first floor:

1. Rear porch
2. Family parlor
3. Formal parlor
4. Kitchen
5. Dining room
6. Porch



Find and label the following rooms on the second floor:

7. Paul's bedroom
8. Matilda's bedroom
9. Bathroom
10. Matilda's sewing room
11. Paul's study or "Loafing Holt"

Inside, the Dunbar House looks similar to how it did while Paul and Matilda lived there in the early 1900s. What are some of the similarities to your house? What about some differences?

Try to list at least five of each.

Similarities:

Differences:

What do the observations you made say about life during the time the Dunbars lived?

Hint: Doing this book at home? Use the photographs on the back cover to help with this activity!

Be Your Own Historian!

Objects, documents and photographs provide insight to the past. Historians study these sources in order to better understand how things once were. Become a historian yourself by completing the following activity.



Object: Typewriter

Use(s): Typing

What the object suggests: The owner of such a device was literate (meaning that he/she could read) and had the ability to write. He/she probably received some kind of formal education.



Object: Nanny Bench

Use(s): Sitting/rocking

What the object suggests: The extra plank of wood makes a safe place for an infant to rest without falling off the bench, allowing a person to rock back and forth while doing other activities. This suggests that time was precious and multitasking was required.

Now find an object that interests you in the house or museum. Describe or draw it here:

What do you think this object is?

What might it have been used for?

What do you think the object says about the people who used it?

What did you find interesting during your visit that you don't want to forget? Write it down here.



Certificate of Achievement

This certificate is awarded to

in recognition of becoming a Junior Ranger

National Park Service
Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site



Park Staff





Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site

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Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park

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Dayton, OH 45402
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Dayton History at Carillon Historical Park

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