

# Interdisciplinary Ideas

## LANGUAGE ARTS

1. Write your own "By Myself" poem. Copy the first two lines from the poem by that name in the book, and put them in quotes. Write your own lines beginning with "I'm a" and end your poem quoting the last three or four lines from Eloise Greenfield's poem.
2. Write poetry similar to "... and Other Love Poems." Add to your poetry bulletin board or publish your own little book of poems.
3. Investigate to find out about the author and other books she has written. (Keyword: Eloise Greenfield) Share with the class.

## ART

1. Make a "Honey, I Love" bulletin board for your poems. Illustrate your poetry using white crayons on orange construction paper. Cut out your drawings and post next to your poems.
2. Create a wrapping center with a variety of wrapping paper, tape, scissors, ribbon, and matchboxes or other small boxes. In pairs or small groups, wrap your poems as gifts. Include tiny cards and give your poems to people you love.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Read a book about Harriet Tubman, then perform the poem "Harriet Tubman" as a choral reading.

## MUSIC

Read "Way Down in the Music," then play a song from the era of the Jackson Five. Dance!

# Honey, I Love and Other Poems

Eloise Greenfield  
1978  
New York: Thomas Y. Crowell

## LOVE

U.S.A.  
Poetry  
Reading Time: 12 minutes

## CONCEPTS

Love  
Joy  
Compassion  
Self-esteem

## SUMMARY

**Eloise Greenfield's gentle poems envision everyday things through the loving eyes of a child and are spoken from "the heart of a child." Portraits in black and white along with childlike drawings elicit memories and personal identification with feelings expressed in each poem. Remembering helps love to grow.**

NOTE: *Honey, I Love* may be read at one sitting, as a poem a day, or over a period of weeks.

## OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to identify, define, and discuss love, joy, compassion, and self-esteem as they apply to this story. The student will explore ways to show love to family and friends.

## After the Story

### Honey, I Love and Other Poems

#### DISCUSSION

1. Would you like to be a friend of the girl or someone like her? Why or why not? What kinds of activities does she enjoy? What activities do you enjoy?
2. Talk about the kinds of love in the poems. How is loving things different from loving people?
3. Which poems show the girl loves her family? Which poems show compassion for others? Explain.
4. How do you know the girl loves herself? Why is it important to love yourself?
5. What does the girl value? What do you value?

#### ACTIVITIES

1. Locate the U.S.A. on the world map.
2. Write "Honey, I Love" list poems. Make lists of people and things you love on "Honey, I Love" poetry forms.\* Revise your poems adding adjectives or descriptions. Read poems to the class and make finished copies for a "Honey, I Love" bulletin board. (See Art #1.)
3. Make an "About Me" poster: In the center of heavy paper glue a photograph of yourself. Around your photo write titles such as Things I Like, People I Love, How I Show Kindness, and Favorite Activities. Draw pictures near the titles or cut out appropriate magazine pictures and glue to your poster. Display for all to see.

#### EXTENSION

1. Complete Home Connection pages and take home to share with families.
2. Memorize one of the shorter poems such as "Things," "Keepsake," "Moochie," or "Love Don't Mean." Recite your poem for family members and talk about what the poem means.
3. With your family talk about things that make you happy. Have each member in your family write a list of things that make him/her happy. Put your family lists in a scrapbook with family pictures.

#### WRAP-UP

1. In *My Heartwood Journal* write the name of your favorite poems in the collection and tell why you liked it and Heartwood attributes relating to it.
2. In small groups, brainstorm ideas for having a kind and caring classroom. Report to the class, list on a chart under the title "We Show Kindness and Caring by...", post, and try out ideas each day.

#### VOCABULARY

**bass**  
**pocketbook**  
**slave catchers**

**compassion**  
**self-esteem**