Figurative Language

Poetry Unit
Daily Objective

• SPI 0701.8.3 Distinguish among different genres (e.g., poetry) using their distinguishing characteristics.
Poetry

- **Stanzas**: a group of lines that form a single unit in a poem.
  - How many stanzas does “Stereo Heart” have?
    - 4 (chorus, verse one, verse two, bridge)

- **Lines**
  - How many lines are in the first stanza?
    - 7 lines

- **Rhythm** – beat, accent in a poem

- **Rhyme** – similar sounds - NOT always

- What is the meaning of this song, What is it about?
Poetry – i carry your heart with me

1. How many stanzas are in the poem?
   • 4 stanzas

2. How many lines are in the each stanza?
   – 4 lines in first, 5 lines in second, 5 lines in third, 1 line in fourth

3. What is unique about this poem?
   – Punctuation, capitalization, no rhyme

4. What is the meaning of this poem? What is it about?
Daily Objective

• 0701.8.19 Determine the appropriate meaning of figurative words and phrases (e.g., idiom, metaphor, simile, personification, pun) in passages.
Recognizing Figurative Language

The opposite of literal language is figurative language. Figurative language is language that means more than what it says on the surface.

• It usually gives us a feeling about its subject.

• Poets use figurative language almost as frequently as literal language. When you read poetry, you must be conscious of the difference. Otherwise, a poem may make no sense at all.
Recognizing Literal Language

“I’ve eaten so much I feel as if I could literally burst!”

• In this case, the person is not using the word literally in its true meaning. Literal means "exact" or "not exaggerated." By pretending that the statement is not exaggerated, the person stresses how much he has eaten.

Literal language is language that means exactly what is said.

Most of the time, we use literal language.
Literal vs. Figurative Language

• Literal – the exact or primary meaning of a word or words – means exactly what it says

• Figurative – involving a figure of speech, not literal – really means something else
What is figurative language?

- Whenever you describe something by comparing it with something else, you are using figurative language.
Types of Figurative Language

- Imagery
- Simile
- Metaphor
- Alliteration
- Personification
- Onomatopoeia
- Hyperbole
- Idioms
Idioms

• Definition: A set expression of two or more words that means something other than the literal meanings of its individual words.

• Example: It’s raining cats and dogs.
  – What does it mean literally?
  – What does it mean figuratively?
“From a Railway Carriage”

- Find the idiom in the poem.
- Explain what it means both literally and figuratively.
“From a Railway Carriage”

1. What is the poem talking about?
2. List some of the things that the poet sees.
3. List three different titles for this poem that would still give the reader an idea of what the poem is about.
4. What is the idiom in the poem?
Idiom Pictionary!

- The artist will pick a card from the cup and draw the idiom – Pictionary style – on the board.
- You must raise your hand when you know the answer. DO NOT shout out the answer to the class.
- Once the answer has been given, everyone writes the idiom in their notes.
- Whoever guesses correctly gets to be the next artist.
Imagery Devices

Purpose is to create an _image_ in the reader’s mind.

• 1. Simile
• 2. Metaphor
• 3. Personification
Daily Objective

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Which picture best describes you?

- Eagle
- Baseball
- Wave
- Highway
- Drum

• Decide which picture best describes you and complete the sentence: I am a __________ because…. (fill in the blank with one of the objects from the pictures)
• Example: I am an eagle because…. 
1. Simile

• A comparison of two things (that may or not be alike) using the words *like* or *as*.
Examples of a Simile

• Bob is hungry as a wolf.
• **Bob** and **wolf** are the two **things** being compared, using “as”
• Sue smells like a rose.
• **Sue** & **rose** are the two **things** being compared, using “like”
2. Metaphor

• A comparison of two unlike things without using like or as. (Things = person, place, thing, or thought)
Examples of a Metaphor

- Bob is a hungry wolf.
- **Bob** is compared to a **wolf**.
- Sue is a rose, filling the room with her sweet scent.
- **Sue (or Sue’s scent)** and **rose** are being compared.
Examples of Simile

• “The River” by Garth Brooks
• You know a dream is like a river / Ever changing as it flows
• Which two things are being compared?
• Dream and river using the word “like”
Trickier Example in “The River”

- And I will sail my vessel / ‘Til the river runs dry / Like a bird upon the wind / These waters are my sky

- Which two things are being compared using a simile?

- I (the speaker) and bird using “like”

- Re-wording the sentence helps to see the simile:

- I sail these waters *like* a *bird* flies through the sky.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Similes and Metaphors</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Dream is like a river</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Dreamer’s just a vessel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I am - like a bird upon the wind</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Waters are my sky</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Good Lord as my captain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Questions

• Symbol – a symbol is an image or object that also stands for something larger than itself (American flag = freedom, etc.) What symbol is Garth Brooks using to illustrate his point?
• Why would he use this symbol?
• What is the message of this song? What does it mean?
Write your own!

- Write five similes and five metaphors in your composition books.
Daily Objective

• 0701.8.19 Determine the appropriate meaning of figurative words and phrases (e.g., idiom, metaphor, simile, personification, pun) in passages.
1. Take two sheets of paper (8 1/2" x 11") and separately fold them like a hamburger.

2. Place the papers on top of each other, leaving one-sixteenth of an inch between the mountain tops. Mark both folds one inch from the outer edges.

3. On one of the folded sheets, cut from the top and bottom edges to the marked spot on both sides.
4. On the second folded sheet, start at one of the marked spots and cut the fold between the two marks.

5. Take the cut sheet from step 3 and fold it like a burrito. Place the burrito through the other sheet and then open the burrito. Fold the bound pages in half to form an eight-page book.
Poetry Burrito Books

• Decorate the cover – put your name on the cover somewhere.

• Open to inside cover and make a Table of Contents.
Similes and Metaphors Review

Mr. Grinch – find the similes and metaphors

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxVqlZCNw0&feature=player_embedded#!
Color Poems

• Line 1- Choose your favorite color.
• Line 2- describe something associated with it
• Line 3 – simile or metaphor
• Line 4 – prepositional phrase telling where

Example:
Green
Makes me think of a new Spring
Like a tree covered in leaves
In a wooded forest

Write your rough draft first before writing it in your book!
Illustrate this poem!
Similes and Metaphors

• Turn the following into similes:
  – The sky was blue
  – The party was fun
  – That homework was hard

• Turn the following into metaphors:
  – Eddie eats a lot
  – My room is dirty
Daily Objective

• 0701.8.20 Explore the concept of allusions.

• SPI 0701.2.8 Identify the functions and responsibilities of individual roles within an organized group
  – (i.e., reporter, recorder, information gatherer, leader, timekeeper).
Allusion

• a figure of speech making reference to a famous historical or literary figure or event.
Find the allusion:

• "Christy didn't like to spend money. She was no Scrooge, but she seldom purchased anything except the bare necessities".

• Did you spot the allusion to Scrooge? That name should bring to mind an image of someone who 'pinches pennies' and hoards money with a passion. But the allusion only works if the reader is familiar with Charles Dickens' story 'A Christmas Carol'. 
Find the allusion:

• "I am afraid of spiders, but I'm no cowardly lion!"

• Allusion to the cowardly lion in The Wizard of Oz.

• He was as brave as Hercules.

• Allusion to Hercules from Greek mythology
“It’s a New Day” – will.i.am

Modeling

1. Channeling Harriet Tubman

2. Referring to Harriet Tubman

3. Purpose – contributes to the Civil Rights theme by referencing Harriet Tubman well known for helping slaves escape on the Underground Railroad

4. Stanza # - 3

5. Line # -4
Independent Practice

• In your groups, you will identify and analyze the allusions in the song and the three poems on the back of the page.

• Don’t forget to put the stanza and line number where you find the allusion.
Daily Objective

• 0701.8.19 Determine the appropriate meaning of figurative words and phrases (e.g., idiom, metaphor, simile, personification, pun) in passages.
Maya Angelou Background


- Write three facts from the video clip.
Maya Angelou

• “Still I Rise”

• http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqOqo50LSZ0
## Make a T-Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6 Similes and 2 Metaphors</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• But still, like dust, I’ll rise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I walk like I’ve got oil wells</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Like moons and like suns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Like hopes springing high</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Shoulders falling down like teardrops</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I laugh like I’ve got gold mines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I’m a black ocean</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I am the dream and the hope of the slave</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Daily Objective

• 0701.8.19 Determine the appropriate meaning of figurative words and phrases (e.g., idiom, metaphor, simile, personification, pun) in passages.
Set

- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ov4tE7XRTUA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ov4tE7XRTUA)

- Watch the clip for an example of personification.
3. Personification

• A type of metaphor in which non-human things or ideas possess human qualities or actions.
Examples of Personification

• The wind whispered her name.

• **Wind** is being personified: “wind whispered”, because “wind” can’t actually “whisper.”

• Justice is blind.

• **Justice** is being personified: blind justice, because justice has no actual eyes that could be blinded.
I am a cell phone.
I like to chat all the time.
I am very helpful in an emergency.
I often play games with my owners.
I sometimes interrupt when my owner is busy.
I feel important wherever I go.
I am a cell phone.
I am rain
I like to soar through the air
and make everything wet.
I fall out of clouds.
I hose the Earth and announce Winter.
I always come on dark, lonely days.
I sometimes interrupt baseball games.
I feel important when I water flowers
and keep everything alive.
I am rain.

Rain Drops
Boulevard of Broken Dreams

- I walk a lonely road
  The only one that I have ever known
  Don't know where it goes
  But It's home to me and I walk alone

  I walk this empty street
  On the Boulevard of broken dreams
  Where the city sleeps
  And I'm the only one and I walk alone

  I walk alone
  I walk alone

  My shadow's the only one that walks beside me
  My shallow heart's the only thing that's beating
  Sometimes I wish someone out there will find me
  'Till then I walk alone
Personification

• “The Fog”
  – List all examples of personification.
  – In a paragraph, explain why this poem is an example of personification. The paragraph needs at least five sentences. Use specific evidence from the poem.
Boulevard of Broken Dreams

Draw one image that this song/poem creates in your mind and write the lines next to it.

- I walk a lonely road
  The only one that I have ever known
  Don't know where it goes
  But it's home to me and I walk alone

I walk this empty street
On the Boulevard of broken dreams
Where the city sleeps
And I'm the only one and I walk alone

My shadow's the only one that walks beside me
My shallow heart's the only thing that's beating
Sometimes I wish someone out there will find me
'Till then I walk alone
Find the examples of personification in the poem excerpt

Late lies the wintry sun a-bed
A frosty, fiery sleepy head;
Blinks but an hour or two; and then,
A blood-red orange, sets again.

-Robert Louis Stevenson “Winter Time”
Find the examples of personification in the poem excerpt

When the Dawn spread her fingertips of rose in the eastern sky, the men and dogs went hunting.

- Homer “The Odyssey”
Find the examples of personification in the poem excerpt

When the stars threw down their spears
And watered heaven with their tears,
Did he smile his work to see?
Did he who made the Lamb make thee?

-William Blake “The Tiger”
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Personification Review

April Rain Song

Let the rain kiss you
Let the rain beat upon your head with silver liquid drops
Let the rain sing you a lullaby
The rain makes still pools on the sidewalk
The rain makes running pools in the gutter
The rain plays a little sleep song on our roof at night
And I love the rain.

by Langston Hughes
Personification

The sky is low
THE sky is low, the clouds are mean,
A travelling flake of snow
Across a barn or through a rut
Debates if it will go.

A narrow wind complains all day
How some one treated him;
Nature, like us, is sometimes caught
Without her diadem.

Emily Dickinson
Personification Poem

• Check worksheet for details
• Pre-write – 10 points
• Draft – 20 points
• Revise/edit – 10 points
• Publishing – 60 points
• Due Monday.
What did we learn today?

• 0701.8.19 Determine the appropriate meaning of figurative words and phrases (e.g., idiom, metaphor, simile, personification, pun) in passages.