Biopoem
Ender's Game

Purpose of the Strategy

This strategy encourages character analysis. Students are able to express themselves in a creative writing style, while still interacting on a fairly sophisticated level with the text.

Directions

Step 1: After reading far enough in the book where students could describe several characters, assign them a "Biopoem". This activity could be used as an after activity or an activity exclusive of a specific reading assignment.

Step 2: Tell the students that they can choose any character from *Ender's Game* and write a Biopoem for him or her, using the following format. Put these directions on an overhead.

Line 1   Write the character's first name
Line 2   List four traits that describe the character
Line 3   Write "Relative of _____" (fill in the blank)
Line 4   "Lover of _____" (list 3 items)
Line 5   "Who feels _____" (list 3 items)
Line 6   "Who needs _____" (list 3 items)
Line 7   "Who fears _____" (list 3 items)
Line 8   "Who gives _____" (list 3 items)
Line 9   "Who would like to see _____" (list 3 items)
Line 10   "Resident of _____" (fill in the blank)
Line 11   Write the character's last name

Step 3: Show students the example on the next page as a model.

Assessment

Students do not need to necessarily follow the format exactly, but they should include enough detail about the character to show that they have thought about that character's attributes. Look for responses that indicate deeper analysis, rather than simple repetition of surface details.

Created by Tiffany Stoddard 2006 *Ender's Game*

Biopoem
Teacher Copy
Ender's Game

Bean
Inventive, pint-sized, curious, underage
Relative of no one but Ender's jeesh
Lover of battle, his leader, and playing with null-g
Who feels courage, intensity, and indignation
Who needs an opportunity, some rope, and a smaller flash suit
Who fears premature leadership, failure, and Ender's breakdown
Who gives a listening ear, the victorious nudge, and a humiliating example
Who would like to see the ocean, the other side of the universe, and victory
Resident of Battle school
No name but Bean