

**Written & Illustrated  
By Patty Ann**

**The Character of Pulling Weeds  
And Original Metaphor Poems  
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# Welcome to a Unique Metaphor Activity For Character Development

Activity Objective: Created with the Intention to:

- Inspire critical thinking skills through the use of prose
- Create and connect metaphors to understand its meaning
- Stimulate character development using writing prompts

Ease of Use for the Teacher/Facilitator:

- This is a NO Prep Complete Lesson Plan.
- Lesson can be Assigned as a Self-Taught Independent Study.
- Use as Homework, In Class Assignment, or Knowledge Check Quiz
- Effective Exercise to Employ as a Collaborative Group Activity.
- Use Individual Poems as Icebreakers or Discussion Starters.
- The 3 Poems can be split up to use on different days. For example, use one to introduce a metaphor, and use another as a knowledge check.

*All poems are originals by Patty Ann.*

*Thank YOU and Enjoy!*

# Metaphor Defined by Wikipedia

A metaphor is a figure of speech that, for rhetorical effect, directly refers to one thing by mentioning another. It may provide (or obscure) clarity or identify hidden similarities between two different ideas. Metaphors are often compared with other types of figurative language, such as antithesis, hyperbole, metonymy and simile. One of the most commonly cited examples of a metaphor in English literature comes from the "All the world's a stage" monologue from *As You Like It*:  
It:

All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players;  
They have their exits, and their entrances ...  
—William Shakespeare, *As You Like It*, 2/7[3]

This quotation expresses a metaphor because the world is not literally a stage and humans are not literally actors and actresses playing roles. By asserting that the world is a stage, Shakespeare uses points of comparison between the world and a stage to convey an understanding about the mechanics of the world and the behavior of the people within it.

The word metaphor itself is a metaphor, coming from a Greek term meaning to "transfer" or "carry across." Metaphors "carry" meaning from one word, image, idea, or situation to another, linking them and creating a metaphor.

# The Character of Pulling Weeds

As we all know,  
Weeds grow.

In gardens and flower beds, in driveways,  
Along roads, in gutters, and walkways.

Parents have been known to say,  
"Pulling weeds builds character."  
And, kids think there are better ways  
To spend their precious day.

But there you are, pulling weeds,  
So as to not spread their seeds.  
One by one, each by the root,  
The whole plant down to soot.

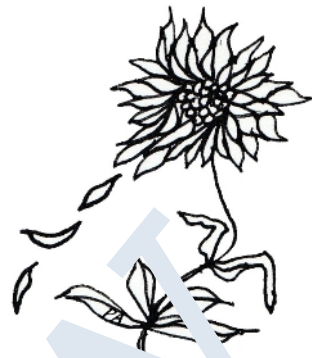
"Why can't we spray?" You say  
"It's quicker and kills right away."

Mother says "No!" that's her answer.  
Then explains "Sprays are poison and a cancer."

"The spray hurts the earth,  
And saturates the dirt,  
Its toxins pollute our wells by rain,  
It kill our critters, it's a shame.

The wind carries it into our eyes and nose,  
It won't wash out with the garden hose.

We don't need the perfect place,  
Pulling weeds is not a race. (continued)



Circle        Draw an Arrow to  
Point to a Metaphor.

Fill in a Metaphor Practice!

A weed is

\_\_\_\_\_.

A garden hose is

\_\_\_\_\_.

A flower is

\_\_\_\_\_.

Write your own Metaphors!

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Dream Soul Wisdom

A wise old soul once said,  
"Sleep helps heal the head.

And rests our spirit overnight,  
Which often reveals new insight.

The body needs time to decompress.  
Relax, unwind, and rid itself of stress.

Sleep allows space.  
For dreams to take place.

A dream is a playground.  
Where souls play around.

Weird or wild, happy or not,  
Our imagination needs a play spot.

How do we know what is real or fake?  
Perhaps we know when wide awake.

A step into a dream land, escape,  
Carry nirvana; one more escape.

Into another dimension we travel,  
Where souls play mind games to unravel.

The gift of rest, asleep or awake,  
Begins each dawn at day break.

~Patty Ann © 2021



Circle or Draw an Arrow to  
Point to a Metaphor.

Fill in a Metaphor Practice!

Sleep is

\_\_\_\_\_.

An imagination is

\_\_\_\_\_.

A playground is

\_\_\_\_\_.

Write your own Metaphors!

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Drum Beats of a Poem

A poem is a drum beat in time.  
Many have rhythm that rhyme.

Words make one think or ponder,  
Prose can push the mind to wander.

Truths may ring true.  
Yet lyrics make some blue.

Realizations may be learned.  
As one reflects on lessons earned.

Poems give one time to pause.  
To smile, reminisce, or ponder a pause.

Composed with sentences of nouns and verbs,  
Poems become alive, when read and heard.

A poem is a drum beat that moves along,  
Of stories and folklore that sings a song.

~Patty Ann © 2022



Circle or Draw an Arrow to  
Point to a Metaphor.

Fill in a Metaphor Practice!

A drum is \_\_\_\_\_.

A sentence is \_\_\_\_\_.

A story is \_\_\_\_\_.

Write your own Metaphors!

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Create and Write Your Own Metaphors...

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

Take Your Favorite from Above and Write a Poem that Includes Your Metaphor! Be Sure to Sign Your Poem!

PREVIEW

In Your Own Words, Write a Definition for Metaphor.

Blank dashed box for writing a definition of a metaphor.

Explain Why – How Metaphors Help Communicate.

Blank dashed box for explaining why metaphors help communicate.

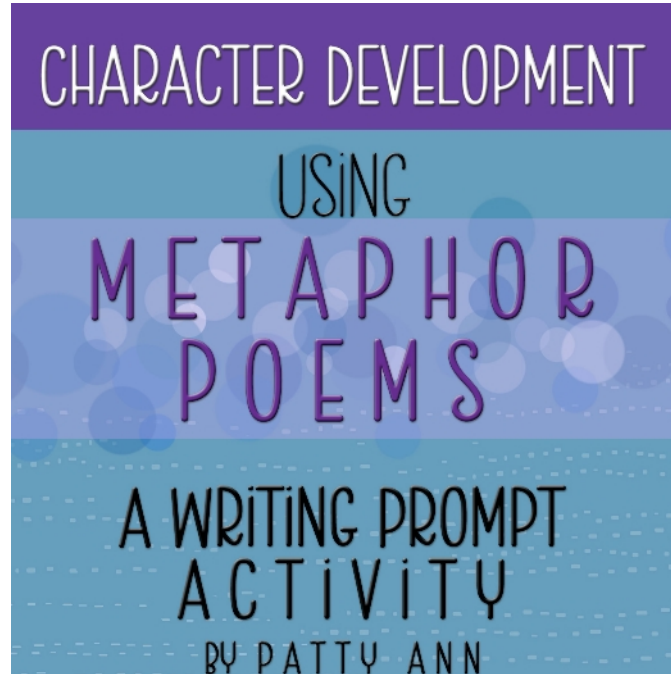
Do You Use Metaphors When You Speak? Why or why Not?

Blank dashed box for discussing the use of metaphors in speech.





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