

**American Writers Museum
American Voices Field Trip
Student Materials**

Student Name: _____

Activating Prior Knowledge:

What is Author's Purpose?		
Below, write the definition for each purpose. Then write an example of each purpose.		
Persuade:		
Inform:		
Entertain:		

Guided Exploration of the Museum Instructions:

Today you will be guided through the museum. We encourage you to take your time and read through pieces that you find interesting: poems, biographies, etc. Feel free to engage in the kiosks or activities provided. Throughout all of this you will also need to:

1. **Complete the Author's Purpose Chart:** Every writer writes for a reason. As you explore the museum and learn about many authors, begin to determine what purpose they have for writing. Search for an author for each type: persuade, inform, and entertain. Write down evidence that helped you determine which type: quotation from a text, example of what they wrote, or from reading the anecdotal notes on the author.
2. **Personal Word Waterfall:** Great writers will brainstorm before writing. Developing a list of words or phrases that have stood out to you can be one way of brainstorming. As you explore the museum, write down words or phrases that you like, find meaning or connection with, intrigue you, etc. By the end of your exploration, you will have a waterfall of words that you can use to write a story or poem.

Author's Purpose Chart

As you explore the museum and learn about many authors, begin to determine what purpose they have for writing. Search for an author for each type: persuade, inform, and entertain. Refer back to your notes about what each of those is. Write down evidence that helped you determine which type: quotation from a text, example of what they wrote, or from reading the anecdotal notes on the author.

	Author: Who uses this purpose?	Evidence: How did you know?
Persuade:		
Inform:		
Entertain:		

Personal Word Waterfall:

As you explore the museum, write down words or phrases that you like, find meaning or connection with, intrigue you, etc. By the end of your exploration, you will have a waterfall of words that you can use to write a story or poem.

