



## Versatile Poeti*q*

Spoken Word/ RaPoetry

### ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

**Workshop**-Students learn the core elements of Spoken Word, Poetry, and Hip Hop through various activities and exercises. They can watch an artist perform on YouTube or Versatile Poeti*q* can perform for them and they analyze and give feedback.

**Performance**- Versatile Poeti*q* performs Spoken Word and uses call & response with the audience. Letting students perform if they choose to as well!

**Residency**-Students learn the core elements of Spoken Word, Poetry, and Hip Hop through various icebreakers, activities, and exercises. They will create their own poems for performance individual or as a class. More in depth look inside Spoken Word, Poetry, and Hip Hop through class discussions. Students will watch videos of various artists and analyze and respond to them. Students will use critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills to understand the material.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To enhance student's ability to understand and conceptualize poetry and spoken word.
- To help students think critically and experience spoken word from an artist's perspective.
- To help students learn to apply problem solving skills and analytical values to everyday life.
- To foster in students a love for writing, speaking, and listening.
- To teach students how to use writing as a form of self-expression



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# About the Artist & Program Preparations

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Versatile Poetiq (aka Brittana Tatum) is a spoken word artist and rap poet with a mission to enhance student's abilities to understand and conceptualize poetry and spoken word. She uses an inclusive style of teaching that values success over a system and people over a plan. This enables her to connect with each student in deep, meaningful ways. A regular performer in the Hartford area hip-hop scene, Versatile graduated from the University of Hartford and teaches spoken word at Hartford Academy for the Arts.

## PRE PROGRAM

Listen to spoken word artists and discuss how beat and rhythm are used in writing.

Discuss metaphor and similes with students and have them create as many examples of each as they can.

## POST PROGRAM

Have students create and perform spoken word pieces using techniques they have learned with Versatile on a topic from each curricular area.

## CURRICULAR LINKS

Source: Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts.

**Writing Standard:** Text Types and Purposes, 1-3; Production and Distribution of Writing, 5; Range of Writing, 10.

**Speaking and Listening:** Comprehension and Collaboration, 1-3; Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas, 4-6.

**Language Standard:** Knowledge of Language, 3; Vocabulary Acquisition and Use, 4-6; Conventions of Standard English, 1-2

*"Versatile had all of my students enthralled, and was able to inspire kids I have trouble reaching."*

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers, John Barry School, Meriden, CT



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