Lesson Plan: "Love Is a Metaphor"

OBJECTIVE: To have students examine love from multiple perspectives and create a poem pertaining to love by comparing it something else.

KEY TERMS:	**Metaphor** – A figure of speech that makes a comparison equating two or more unlike things without using a connective word such as like, as, than, or resembles. **Extended Metaphor** - A comparison between two unlike things that continues throughout a series of sentences in a paragraph or lines in a poem.	
STANDARDS:	**Virginia** 9.1 C, 10.1 D, 9.4 A, 9.4 H, 10.4 H, 11.4 E, 9.7-12.7 E	**Common Core** *Reading* Grades 6-8: 1, 2, 4, 6 Grades 9-12: 1, 2, 4 *Writing* Grades 6-8: 3.b-d, 4, 5 Grades 9-12: 3.a-d, 4, 5 *Language Standards* Grades 6-8: 3, 5 Grades 9-12: 3, 5

STEP ONE:	Have your students think of their first encounters with love. It could be anything from a silly crush to a family member to a love for your dog. Ask the students the following questions and have them write their responses to each of the questions on their sheet of paper: • What was it like? What did it feel like, both emotionally and physically? • What would that love look like if it were an object? Would it be… - A sports car - A well written book - A supernova • What would it look or act like as a person? Would they be… - Tall and athletic - Short and intellectual - Gorgeous and illusive • What wouldn't it look like? Discuss. Create a list of three to five things your love would or wouldn't look like as a person or an object.

STEP TWO:	For further practice, watch either Anis Mojgani's "Love Poem for his Wife" or Shoolie's "Love, War and Peace." The poets have very specific interpretations of love. • What does the poet's love look like as a person? A place? An object? Cite a few examples from the poem to defend your choices. • What doesn't it look like? Cite a few examples from the poem to defend your choices.
STEP THREE:	Now It's Time to Write! Use the story and metaphors created in Step One to write your own love poem. To help you get started, try using the opening lines of, "My love is… or My love isn't." Make sure you thoroughly explain your metaphors; don't compare your love to something else without giving your audience an understanding as to how those two unlike concepts are related! Take 15 minutes to write, then share!