

## Unit 3-Community Poetry Slam

### Being Black in My Neighborhood By Ja Jahannes

#### To be Memorized by February 10<sup>th</sup>

Being Black in my neighborhood  
Is a splendid thing  
Like bright sunshine  
And new clothes in Spring

We got our own special ways  
And our own special days,

Like Sunday morning  
Now that's a time  
For colored boys and girls  
To put on clothes as they say  
And pose and strut,  
Boys in their three piece suits,  
Clean,  
Know what I mean,  
And girls so shiny  
Hair greased back, with pretty curls  
And bows and braids  
Ah the whole neighborhood  
Is laid.  
And white patent leather pocketbooks  
For handkerchiefs only

Being Black in my neighborhood  
Is a splendid thing,  
Like singing in the summer  
On the corner  
Under the moth encircled  
Lamppost.

Oh, what joy it is  
On my block  
Being Black.