

## When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer

Poem by Walt Whitman

## The Artilleryman's Vision

Poem by Walt Whitman

# *What do we learn from* **EXPERIENCE?**



### SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS

#### Literary Analysis

**Benchmark LA.910.2.1.3** Explain how meaning is enhanced through various features of poetry....

**Benchmark LA.910.2.1.7** Analyze, interpret, and evaluate an author's use of descriptive language (e.g., tone, irony, mood, imagery, pun, alliteration, onomatopoeia, allusion)....

**KEY IDEA** We often gain valuable information through reading, watching television, and listening to people share their knowledge. But sometimes **experience** can be the most powerful teacher. In the following poems by Walt Whitman, you will meet two men who learn very different lessons through their life experiences.

**QUICKWRITE** Think about a time in which experiencing something firsthand helped you to learn about it. For example, maybe you gained appreciation for a distant city by actually visiting it. Or perhaps breaking a leg made you aware of some barriers to the disabled. Explain to a classmate how experience fostered your new understanding.

