

8.1

Name: _____

Date: _____

Interpreting Metaphor

In “She Had Some Horses,” Joy Harjo uses horses to represent different parts of the woman’s personality or identity. Horses occupy a special space in many Native American tribes. The horses are a metaphor for the woman in this poem, but it is not stated directly.

The poem also has metaphors that are stated directly. These metaphors compare the horses to other things.

Your teacher will arrange you into groups and assign your group a metaphor to investigate. Each group will use the graphic organizer that follows to discuss different figurative meanings its metaphor might have and to think of evidence to back up their ideas.

Your teacher will review the first two examples before you start.

1. Example. She had horses who were bodies of sand.
2. Example. She had horses who were maps drawn of blood.