

Unit/ Essential Questions	Approx Start Time	Approx End time	Texts(s)/ Resources	Targeted Understanding (Purpose)	Targeted lessons	Content Standards	Writing Focus
<p>Understanding literary elements</p> <p>How are universal experiences expressed through literature?</p> <p>How does an author use language to convey meaning and engage readers?</p>	Sept.	Sept. 29th	<p>--"Broken Chain" by Gary Soto (follow up on summer reading)</p> <p>--"Two Were Left" by Hugh B. Cave (review plot structure)</p> <p>--"The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe (sensory language/mood)</p> <p>--"Stranger" by Walter Dean Myers (voice, setting, characterization)</p> <p>--"The Veldt" by Ray Bradbury (theme, sensory language, foreshadowing)</p> <p>--"Lamb to the Slaughter" by Roald Dahl (plot, foreshadowing)</p>	<p>-Students will understand how authors use language to convey meaning and engage readers.</p> <p>- Students will understand a common language in order to read and discuss literature (literary terms).</p>	<p>-How theme is developed</p> <p>-How sensory language establishes mood</p> <p>-Using text evidence to support a claim</p> <p>-Incorporating quotes</p> <p>-Plot structure (review)</p>	<p>CCSS</p> <p>-RL.8.1</p> <p>- RL.8.2</p> <p>- RL.8.3</p> <p>-W.8.1</p> <p>-W.8.3</p> <p>-W.8.5</p>	<p>- Short Story (must include setting, dialogue, and sensory language)</p> <p>FOCUS</p> <p>-Students write their own short stories modeled on the ones they have read (PCR: Narrative)</p> <p>- "Broken Chain" multi paragraph essay (fall benchmark assessment)</p> <p>FOCUS:</p> <p>-essay structure</p> <p>-revision process</p> <p>-claim (PCR: Opinion)</p>

<p>Examining individual perspectives.</p> <p>How does individual perspective shape our choices and actions?</p>	<p>Oct. 2nd</p>	<p>Nov. 3rd</p>	<p><u>Witness</u> by Karen Hesse</p> <p>novel, audio version, articles/videos: kkk, 1920's.</p> <p>"I Hear America Singing" by Walt Whitman</p> <p>"I, Too, Sing America" by Langston Hughes</p>	<p>Carefully examining the same subject from differing perspectives produces a more complex understanding.</p> <p>Individual perspective acts as a lense, shaping the way we view the world and form judgements...</p>	<p>-Text structure: verse vs. prose</p> <p>-Types of characters: dynamic, static, round, flat</p> <p>-Character analysis</p> <p>- How characters change over time and how the language helps to illustrate this change</p>	<p>CCSS</p> <p>-RL.8.1,2,6</p> <p>-W.8.1,4,5,7</p> <p>-SL;1.3.5</p> <p>-L.8.1,2</p>	<p>-verse to prose section (students will choose their own selection from Witness to convert to prose)</p> <p>(PCR: Narrative)</p>
<p>Exploring Literature in the context of history</p> <p>Can Literature act as a catalyst for change?</p>	<p>Nov. 6th</p>	<p>Dec. 22nd</p>	<p>- <u>I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust</u> by Livia Bitton-Jackson</p> <p>- oral histories survivor accounts (students select their own from a pool of Holocaust survivor accounts)</p> <p>- articles for historical context</p>	<p>- Courage comes in different forms</p> <p>- Reading one person's perspective gives you a limited view of the topic/event</p> <p>- Freedom is a relative concept</p>	<p>-How history is documented in literature</p> <p>- How the format of writing impacts the message of the history (i.e. memoir has a different impact than a historical fiction novel or than a non-fiction text)</p>	<p>CCSS</p> <p>- RI.8.1</p> <p>- RI.8.2</p> <p>- RI.8.3</p> <p>- RI.8.7</p> <p>- W.8.2</p> <p>- W.8.5</p> <p>- W.8.7</p> <p>- W.8.8</p> <p>- W.8.9</p> <p>- SL.8.1</p>	<p>- Multi-paragraph essay</p> <p>-compare and contrast IHL with Anne Frank excerpt</p> <p>(PCR: Expository)</p>
<p>Holocaust Literature Circles - Reciprocal reading</p>	<p>Jan. 2nd</p>	<p>Jan. 26th</p>	<p>Suggested Texts (not limited to):</p> <p>The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank</p> <p>The Book Thief by Markus Zusak</p> <p>The Boy in the</p>				<p>- Perspective Writing (students will write 5 diary entries that reflect the perspective of another character with historical accuracy)</p> <p>(PCR: Narrative)</p>

			<p>Striped Pajamas by John Boyne</p> <p>Beyond Courage by Doreen Rappaport</p> <p>The Boy on the Wooden Box by Leon Leyson</p> <p>The Berlin Boxing Club by Robert Sharenow</p> <p>The Devil's Arithmetic by Jane Yolen</p> <p>Torn Thread by Anne Isaacs</p> <p>Daniel's Story by Carolyn Matas</p> <p>Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli</p> <p>Behind the Bedroom Wall by Laura E. Williams</p>				
<p>Exploring identity, justice, and innocence.</p> <p>How can the choices we make today have far reaching consequences for ourselves and others.</p>	Jan. 29th	March 2nd	<p><u>Monster</u> -article/video on Felony-Murder law</p>	<p>-Our choices can have far reaching consequences for ourselves and others -The concepts of justice and fairness aren't always clear or obvious - Our concepts of right and wrong often drive our choices</p>	<p>-Text format: Screenplay -How the author combines screenplay and journal entries to establish the full plot</p> <p>-How dialogue reveals character traits</p> <p>-How the inclusion of details affects our perception of both</p>	<p>CCSS RL.8.1 RL8.1 W.8.1 W.8.2 W.8.5 CCRA.R.2</p>	<p>-Open response (Choose an excerpt from Monster and explain how the details provided affected your opinion of Steve Harmon.</p>

<p>Social Justice Literature Circles - Reciprocal reading</p>	<p>March 5th</p>	<p>March 16th</p>	<p>Suggested Texts (not limited to):</p> <p>Borderline by Allan Strattan</p> <p>All American Boys by Jason Reynolds</p> <p>Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson</p> <p>The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton</p> <p>Chocolate War by Robert Cormier</p> <p>Blank Confession by Pete Hautman</p>	<p>- Our actions and the perception of others can cause us to lose a sense of who we are</p>	<p>story (i.e. whether or not Steve was guilty or not) AND perception of a concept (what is justice and how do the inclusion of details affect this perception)</p>		<p>-Open response (Explain if the circumstances in the book were fair or unfair.)</p>
<p>Exploring personal expression and the power of individual growth.</p> <p>How can personal expression be a way of developing internal growth and resilience.</p>	<p>March 19th</p>	<p>May 4th</p>	<p><u>Speak</u>-novel and movie version of Speak</p>	<p>Pain and struggle faced with honesty and courage can produce positive growth over time.</p> <p>Powerful personal expression is a valuable tool in coping with life's challenges.</p>	<p>-How figurative language helps a reader to visualize</p> <p>-How an author uses symbolism to convey deeper meaning</p> <p>-How an author establishes voice</p>	<p>CCSS -RL.8.1,2,3,4,6 -W.8.1,2,4,6 -SL.8.1,4,5 L.8.1,2,3,4,5</p>	<p>-Multi-paragraph essay (compare/contrast the given excerpts from Speak and Monster)</p> <p>FOCUS:</p> <p>-full essay structure - the big picture of a "good essay"</p> <p>(PCR: Explanatory)</p>
<p>Global Citizenship Research & Symposium</p>	<p>May 7th</p>	<p>June 8th</p>					