

## 2020-2021 Middle School Literature

### Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

#### Loop C

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**Class Description:** In this class, students will work with high-quality and challenging literature that will help stretch their minds and increase a love for reading. Students will read literature, engage in deep and meaningful conversations about it with their peers, write quality responses using the text, and create projects that will deepen their understanding of the text. Students will also learn how to look for underlying meaning that the author has not directly stated through irony, symbolism, theme, drawing conclusions, and making inferences.

This class will be taught on a three-year loop. Students can take this class for 3 years and get new novels every year that reinforce skills.

#### Objectives:

The student will be able to:

- Compare and contrast characters' motives within a novel
- Identify major themes within a novel
- Discuss texts with a peer group in a way that brings deeper meaning to the novel
- Use textual evidence within a written analysis to help bring meaning to the text
- Identify symbols within a text and construct meaning from them
- Read from a variety of genres, understanding the major components in each
- Summarize important information from non-fiction text
- Research a topic from credible sources and present the information in front of others

#### Sample Novels:

##### Loop A

*The Whipping Boy*

*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*

*The Bronze Bow*

*The Witch of Blackbird Pond*

##### Loop B

*The Giver*

*The Book Thief*

*Wonder*

*The Lion, the Witch,  
and the Wardrobe*

##### Loop C

*A Long Walk to Water*

*The War that Saved my Life*

*Bomb*

*The Breadwinner*

#### Sample Projects:

- Research project on a nonfiction topic of the student's choice- complete with a children's book to present the information

**Cost:**

Tuition is \$380 for the year. Half (\$190) is due the first week of class. The second half is due the beginning of the second semester.

**Add/Drop Policy:** Students dropping the class within the first 4 weeks of the semester will get a refund, minus rent paid and the cost pro-rated for the classes attended. After 4 weeks, no refunds will be given.

**About the Tutor:**

Lisa has been teaching at KAT since 2015. Prior to teaching here at KAT, she taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at an elementary school in Arizona for one year and 4<sup>th</sup> grade at Dorr Elementary in Dorr, Michigan for two years. She also taught for one year online at Laurel Springs School, teaching students in grades 3-8. Lisa received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Grand Valley State University in 2007, majoring in English with a minor in Elementary Education. She also received her Master's in Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on educational differentiation in 2016 from GVSU. She has experience working with students from various age ranges and reading levels, and she strives to meet each student where they are to help them grow and develop a lifelong love of reading.

Outside of teaching, Lisa stays home with her three young boys, Titus, Asher, and Coen. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Kyle, playing with her boys, being outside, watching sports, and, on rare occasions, running. Lisa and her family live in Grand Rapids, where they attend Ada Bible Church.