

2025-2026 Diving Deep into Literature

A 3rd-6th Grade Literature Class

Loop A

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Class Description: In this class, students will develop a love of reading by exploring a variety of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, in a deep and meaningful way. Students will learn how to identify elements of both types of texts, as well as learn different reading strategies that will help them comprehend the text. This class will also offer an opportunity to discuss novels with classmates, helping students to gain new perspectives into a story. A variety of engaging projects, such as a wax museum and poetry slam, will allow students to apply their knowledge and skills in a fun and creative way.

This class is taught on a three-year loop. Students can take the class for three years in a row, as different novels are used to teach the skills each year.

Objectives:

- Identify story elements of both fiction and non-fiction texts
- Use reading strategies (ask questions, predict, summarize, and evaluate) to help gain meaning from the story
- Read and understand literature from various genres
- Discuss texts with peers, using support from the text as evidence
- Use various comprehension strategies (compare/contrast, cause and effect, sequencing, author's purpose, infer, visualize, etc.) to better understand the text
- Research a topic from credible sources and present the information in front of others

Sample Novels:

Loop A:

Because of Winn-Dixie

Number the Stars

Out of Darkness: The Story of Louis Braille

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH

Loop B:

Holes

Bud, Not Buddy

The Westing Game

Various Biographies

Loop C:

Bridge to Terabithia

Esperanza Rising

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Chasing Vermeer

Sample Projects:

- Wax Museum: Students research a person of their choice, write a speech about the person, and perform the speech dressed as the person
- Poetry Slam: A fun way to end a poetry unit (done in April, during poetry month) where students read poems from famous poets, as well as their own poetry in front of the class
- Fairy Tale Unit- Students study fairy tales from around the world and from different points of view and create their own fairy tale

Cost:

Tuition is \$390 for the year. Half (\$195) 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:

I have been teaching at KAT since 2015. Prior to teaching here at KAT, I taught 4 years at various elementary schools. I received my Bachelor of Arts degree from Grand Valley State University in 2007, majoring in English with a minor in Elementary Education, as well as my master's in education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on educational differentiation in 2016 from GVSU. I have experience working with students from various age ranges and reading levels, and I strive to meet each student where they are to help them grow and develop a lifelong love of reading. Incorporating my faith into my teaching is one of the many reasons why I love teaching at KAT. Viewing literature through a Christian lens allows us to strengthen and deepen our understanding of Jesus and His love for us.

Outside of teaching, I love spending time with my husband, Kyle, and my 3 boys, Titus, Asher, and Coen. I love being outside, watching sports, and, of course, reading. I live in Grand Rapids and attend Ada Bible Church.