

2026-2027 Middle School Literature

Grades 6th-8th

Loop B

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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

Loop A Novels	Loop B Novels	Loop C Novels
<i>Inside Out & Back Again</i>	<i>The Giver</i>	<i>A Long Walk to Water</i>
<i>Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry</i>	<i>The Book Thief</i>	<i>The War that Saved my Life</i>
<i>The Bronze Bow</i>	<i>Wonder</i>	<i>Bomb</i>
<i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>	<i>The Magician's Nephew</i>	<i>The Breadwinner</i>

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 \$400 for the year. Half (\$200) is due the first week of class. The second half is due the beginning of the second semester.

Cost may change due to rent charge at new location

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.