

## Olentangy Local School District Literature Selection Review

Teacher:	Jana Thompson	School:	Hyatts Middle School
Book Title:	Number the Stars	Genre:	Historical Fiction
Author:	Lois Lowry	Pages:	137
Publisher:	Yearling	Copyright:	1989

*In a brief rationale, please provide the following information relative to the book you would like added to the school's book collection for classroom use. You may attach additional pages as needed.*

**Book Summary and summary citation:** (suggested resources include book flap summaries, review summaries from publisher, book vendors, etc.)

Ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen and her best friend Ellen Rosen often think about life before the war. But it's now 1943 and their life in Copenhagen is filled with school, food shortages, and the Nazi soldiers marching in their town. The Nazi won't stop. The Jews of Denmark are being "relocated," so Ellen moves in with the Johansens and pretends to be part of the family. Then Annemarie is asked to go on a dangerous mission. Somehow she must find the strength and courage to save her best friend's life. There's no turning back now.

**Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum map(s):** (Curriculum maps may be referenced by grade/course and indicator number or curriculum maps with indicators highlighted may be attached to this form)

Reading Process - Comprehension Strategies

5. Summarize the information in texts, recognizing important ideas and supporting details as well as noting gaps or contradictions. 7RPB

7. Predict or hypothesize as appropriate from information in the text, supporting with specific references to a literary work. 7RPB

Self-monitor

8. Apply self-monitoring strategies to clarify confusion about text and to monitor comprehension. 7RPD

History

7) Deduce how recent events have influenced modern day cultures, government & economies. S3 10HF

8) Identify significant individuals and assess their contributions to the social, political, and economic development of the modern world. S1a, S4

9) Compare different worldly perspectives on major events in recent world history. S2b, 10PA

Citizenship

1) Compare citizen perspectives of multiple countries/cultures on international issues.

2) Explain how opportunities for citizens to influence and participate in the political process vary under various forms of government, including: democracy, monarchy, dictatorship. S18, 8CA

3) Compare and contrast rights & responsibilities of citizens under various systems of government, including: democracy, monarchy, dictatorship. S18, S22, 8CA

**Include two professional reviews of this title:** (a suggested list of resources for identifying professional reviews is shown below. Reviews may be “cut and pasted” (with citation) into the form or printed reviews may be attached to the form)

Review #1

From School Library Journal

Grade 3-7. The gripping story of a ten-year-old Danish girl and her family's courageous efforts to smuggle Jews out of their Nazi-occupied homeland to safety in Sweden. Readers are taken to the very heart of Annemarie's experience, and, through her eyes, come to understand the true meaning of bravery.

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Review #2

Amazon.com

The evacuation of Jews from Nazi-held Denmark is one of the great untold stories of World War II. On September 29, 1943, word got out in Denmark that Jews were to be detained and then sent to the death camps. Within hours the Danish resistance, population and police arranged a small flotilla to herd 7,000 Jews to Sweden. Lois Lowry fictionalizes a true-story account to bring this courageous tale to life. She brings the experience to life through the eyes of 10-year-old Annemarie Johanesen, whose family harbors her best friend, Ellen Rosen, on the eve of the round-up and helps smuggles Ellen's family out of the country. Number the Stars won the 1990 Newbery Medal. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

**What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements?**

<u>Title:</u> <b>After the War</b>	<u>Author:</u> <b>Carol Matas</b>
<u>Title:</u> <b>Letters from Rifka</b>	<u>Author:</u> <b>Karen Hesse</b>
<u>Title:</u> <b>The Devil's Arithmetic</b>	<u>Author:</u> <b>Jane Yolen</b>
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>

**Document any potentially controversial content:**

Many references to Hitler, Jews and God are made in reference to the Holocaust. Damn is used in context with the plot.

**Keeping in mind the age, academic level, and maturity of the intended reader, what is the suggested classroom use: (check all that apply)**

Gifted/Accelerated  Regular  At Risk

**GRADE LEVEL(S):** 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

**Reading level of this title (if applicable):** Grade 6

**Date Submitted to Department Chair:** November 27, 2007

**Suggested Professional Literary Review Sources:**

School Library Journal

Horn Book

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)

Library Journal

Book Links

Publisher's Weekly

Booklist

Kirkus Review

Wilson Library Catalog

English Journal (and other resources of the National Council of Teachers of English)

The Reading Teacher (International Reading Association)

Literature for Today's Young Adults