

## Olentangy Local School District Literature Selection Review

Teacher: Michael Myers    Grade: 12    School: Olentangy High School

Book Title: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest    Genre: Drama

Author: Ken Kesey    Pages: 272

Publisher: Signet    Copyright: Feb. 1963

*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.)

Back Cover

In this classic novel of the 1960's, Ken Kesey's hero is Randall Patrick McMurphy, a boisterous, brawling, fun-loving rebel who swaggers into the world of a mental hospital and takes over. A lusty, life-affirming fighter, McMurphy rallies the other patients around him by challenging the dictatorship of the Big Nurse. He promotes gambling on the ward, smuggles in wine and women, and openly defies the rules at every turn. But this defiance, that starts as starts as a sport, soon develops into a grim struggle, an all-out war between two relentless opponents: Big Nurse, backed by the powers of authority...McMurphy that has his own indomitable will. What happens when Nurse Ratches uses her ultimate weapon against McMurphy provides the story's shocking climax.

**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)

Develop and apply strategies to comprehend and interpret text.

Use a variety of strategies to analyze and comprehend features of nonfiction.

Gain and demonstrate a deeper understanding of human story by reading varieties of genres.

How does reading a variety of literature representing different authors, cultures and eras enhance the reader's understanding of the human story?

18. Compare and contrast motivations and reactions of literary characters confronting similar conflicts (e.g., individual vs. nature, freedom vs. responsibility, individual vs. society), using specific examples of character's thoughts, words and actions. 12RALB

19. Recognize and analyze characteristics of sub-genres and American Literature. 12RALC

21. Evaluate ways authors develop point of view and style to achieve specific rhetorical and aesthetic

purposes (e.g., through use of figurative language, irony, tone, diction, imagery, symbolism and sounds of language), citing specific examples from text to support analysis. 12RALD,E

Standard 12

22. Compare and contrast motivations and reactions of literary characters confronting similar conflicts using specific examples of characters' thoughts, words and actions. 12RALB

23. Analyze the historical, social and cultural context of setting. 12DALC

24. Explain how the narrator affects the characterization, plot and credibility. 12RALA

25. Analyze variations of universal themes in literary texts. 12RALA

15. Distinguish between valid and invalid inferences. 12RAIB

16. Examine an author's beliefs about a subject. 12RAIE

Develop skills in prewriting, drafting, revising, editing and publishing.

Why is the writing process important?

How does using the writing process help a writer effectively communicate ideas?

4. Use organization strategies. 12WPB

5. Organize writing to create a coherent whole with an effective and engaging introduction, body and conclusion and a closing sentence that summarizes, extends or elaborates on points or ideas in the writing. 12WPB

6. Use paragraph form in writing, including topic sentences that arrange paragraphs in a logical sequence, using effective transitions and closing sentences. 12WPB

7. Use available technology to compose text. 12WPB

18. Use correct spelling conventions. 12WCA

19. Use correct capitalization and punctuation. 12WCB

20. Use correct grammar. 12WCC

Research Standard

This book is an excellent tool for teaching close reading techniques and different literary analysis methods. Also, it contains many themes and encourages rich classroom discussions.

**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 Library Journal

This excellent version of Kesey's classic novel does not supplement the fine Recorded Books edition (Audio Reviews, LJ 2/1/93). However, this Blackstone version is a worthy companion, based on the reading skills of narrator Tom Parker. Parker does an exceptional job of bringing to life the characters of Randall Patrick McMurphy, Big Nurse Ratched, Chief Broom, and the others occupying the Oregon mental hospital. He is especially good with Chief Broom, the story's narrator, presenting the chief's state of mind in seeing dark forces behind the nurse's actions plus the changes he undergoes through McMurphy's rebellious, fun-loving nature. Parker's skills and the continuing popularity of this work make this version a required purchase for all collections, even those libraries that have the earlier edition. Stephen L. Hupp, Univ. of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, PA  
Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

Review #2

From AudioFile

The counterculture embraced this allegory of individualism versus the establishment, which, as a film, gave Jack Nicholson one of his more memorable roles. Cowed by sadistic Nurse Ratched, the inmates of a mental hospital are galvanized by a new patient, the free-spirited McMurphy, who enters a pitched battle of wills with the nurse. Narrator Tom Parker does a workmanlike, if somewhat detached, job; his tone nicely mirrors the iconoclasm in his text but doesn't quite nail the personality of the first-person narrator. Y.R. (c)AudioFile, Portland, Maine --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

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

Title: The Awakening    Author: Kate Chopin

Title: Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas    Author: Frederick Douglas

Title: Fahrenheit 451    Author: Ray Bradbury

Title:                    Author:

Title:                    Author:

Title:                    Author:

**Document any potentially controversial content:**

There are some minor racist references, sexual references, violence, and occasional profanity in the novel.

**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):** High School

**Date Submitted to Department Chair:** February 20, 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