



OLETANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM DRAFT- 2022

LOCATION

Building(s): OBMS

Classes/Grade Level(s): 6th ELA

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: Murder is Bad Manners by Robin Stevens

Genre: fiction/mystery

Lexile Reading Level: 910

Total number of pages: 335

Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)

Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are best friends at Deepdean School for Girls, and they both have a penchant for solving mysteries. In fact, outspoken Daisy is a self-described Sherlock Holmes, and she appoints wallflower Hazel as her own personal Watson when they form their own (secret!) detective agency. The only problem? They have nothing to investigate.

But that changes once Hazel discovers the body of their science teacher, Miss Bell—and the body subsequently disappears. She and Daisy are certain a murder must have taken place, and they can think of more than one person with a motive.

Determined to get to the bottom of the crime—and to prove that it happened—before the killer strikes again, Hazel and Daisy must hunt for evidence, spy on their suspects, and use all the cunning, scheming, and intuition they can muster. But will they succeed? And can their friendship stand the test?

Potentially Objectionable Content (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)

Drinking/smoking: several of the teachers smoke cigarettes and some of the older girls are said to have them, but they never smoke them. (pg 9 “It had something to do with Ms. Parker’s hair, cut far too short and the way she and Ms. Bell used to pass their cigarettes from one to the other during our bunbreaks...”)

Sex: Several couples are described as “canoodling” - a type of adult kissing behind closed doors (pg 10 “I went to the science lab during bunbreak and I came upon Ms. Bell and The One canoodling. It was really shocking!”)

Language: “Don’t be an ass” is used once referring to a donkey and “bloody” is used as an English swear word (2 times)

Violence: a murder with a brief description of blood and a limp corps. There is a reference to school bullying- locking a student in a trunk for several hours



Book Reviews (2-3 links) Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links
<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/robin-stevens/murder-is-bad-manners/>
<https://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews/murder-is-bad-manners>

ABOUT THE CLASS

Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards): (To be completed by the teacher or team)

This book will be used for a genre study of mystery in which students will practice skills such as analyzing how the plot unfolds and how characters respond as the plot moves toward a resolution. (RL 6.3). Additionally, students will compare the text to several mystery short stories in terms of how the texts address the mystery topic. (RL 6.9)

The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only* and abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards) [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)

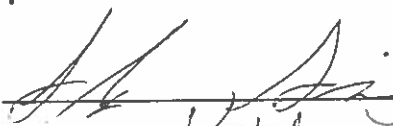



1. RL 6.3 Students will analyze how plot elements are connected and how the characters change or develop based on the episodes.
2. RL 6.9 Students will examine how texts in the mystery genre are similar in structure. Students will examine the similarities and differences in how the author chooses to develop the mystery.

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (Title/author)

1. Theodore Boone- Kid Lawyer by John Grisham
2. City Spies by James Ponti

SIGNATURES (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher:  Date: 3/8/22
Department Chair:  Date: 3/8/22
Building Principal:  Date: 3/8/22
District Curriculum Administrator:  Date: 3/14/22