



OLETANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM DRAFT- 2022

LOCATION

Building(s): OBMS

Classes/Grade Level(s): 6th ELA

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry

Genre: fiction/mystery/historical fiction

Lexile Reading Level: 760L

Total number of pages: 179

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

Life in the community where Jonas lives is idyllic. Designated birthmothers produce newchildren, who are assigned to appropriate family units. Citizens are assigned their partners and their jobs. No one thinks to ask questions. Everyone obeys. Everyone is the same. Except Jonas.

Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community. Gradually Jonas learns that power lies in feelings. But when his own power is put to the test—when he must try to save someone he loves—he may not be ready. Is it too soon? Or too late?

Told with deceptive simplicity, this is the provocative story of a boy who experiences something incredible and undertakes something impossible. In the telling it questions every value we have taken for granted and reexamines our most deeply held beliefs.

The Giver has become one of the most influential novels of our time.

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

Drinking/smoking: None present.

Sex: As children enter puberty, there are mentions of "Stirrings" which are allusions to lust (p.36-39). Talks of wanting to remove a girl's clothes in a dream (p. 35-36).

Language: None present.

Violence: Death is never mentioned, but elderly and individuals seen as "unfit" are "Released" from the community. "Release" is a form of euthanasia to preserve the "utopia" the society in the novel is trying to create. In particular, a scene depicting the euthanasia of a newborn is described to the main character as a result of the newborn being a twin (p. 147-151). Memories of war, hunger, and poaching are used to convey pain to the main character, as the community does not experience pain.

**Should be noted the story takes place in a dystopian timeline where the community attempts to be perfect (utopia) by removing all pain, differences, and any form of similarity that would cause an individual to stand out. The novel is used to show the faults in not recognizing and honoring differences *The Giver* is an excellent and thought-provoking example of a dystopian novel, and it is



	often assigned in fifth grade or middle school English classes.
Book Reviews (2-3 links) Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links https://www.commonensemedia.org/book-reviews/the-giver-book-1 https://www.pluggedin.com/book-reviews/giver/	

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 dystopian and classical literature in which students will focus on perspective and point of view as it pertains to issues and topics of controversy and conflict, and how a character responds and reacts to changes around him/her.

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](#)

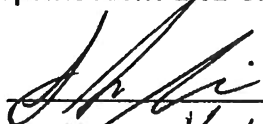
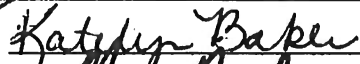

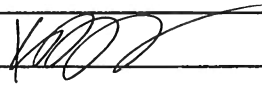
1. RL 6.3 Students will analyze how plot elements are connected and how the characters change or develop based on the episodes.
2. RL 6.6 Students will examine how an author develops point of view through the perspective of the narrator.

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

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

1. Wonderstruck, by Brian Selznick
2. Brave New World, by Aldous Huxley
3. Hatchet, by Gary Paulson

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

Teacher:  Date: 1/6/23
Department Chair:  Date: 1/5/23
Building Principal:  Date: 1/5/23
District Curriculum Administrator:  Date: 1/11/23