OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

LOCATION

Building(s): Shanahan
Classes/Grade Level(s): ELA 6-8

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
Genre: Science Fiction
Lexile Reading Level: 740L
Total number of pages: 279

Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)
From Amazon: When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is all alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is--but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a violent storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants.

As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home--until, one day, the robot's mysterious past comes back to haunt her.

From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed novel about what happens when nature and technology collide.

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

Violence

- A farmer shoots and kills a goose with a gun pg. 207
- Robots that are sent to the island for Roz have guns, and the robots fight Roz and the forest animals pg. 231-256
- The forest animals shoot one of the robots that are chasing Roz pg. 234

Book Reviews (1-2 link(s)) *Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links*

From Kirkus Reviews: A sophisticated robot--with the capacity to use senses of sight, hearing, and smell--is washed to shore on an island, the only robot survivor of a cargo of 500. When otters play with her protective packaging, the robot is accidently activated. Roz, though without emotions, is intelligent and versatile. She can observe and learn in service of both her survival and her principle function: to



help. Brown links these basic functions to the kind of evolution Roz undergoes as she figures out how to stay dry and intact in her wild environment--not easy, with pine cones and poop dropping from above, stormy weather, and a family of cranky bears. She learns to understand and eventually speak the language of the wild creatures (each species with its different "accent"). An accident leaves her the sole protector of a baby goose, and Roz must ask other creatures for help to shelter and feed the gosling. Roz's growing connection with her environment is sweetly funny, reminiscent of Randall Jarrell's The Animal Family. At every moment Roz's actions seem plausible and logical yet surprisingly full of something like feeling. Robot hunters with guns figure into the climax of the story as the outside world intrudes. While the end to Roz's benign and wild life is startling and violent, Brown leaves Roz and her companions--and readers--with hope. Thought-provoking and charming. (Science fiction/fantasy. 7-11)

From School Library Journal: Gr 3-7-Brown makes his chapter book debut with this story about a robot who finds herself shipwrecked on an island. ROZZUM unit 7134-Roz for short-uses her computer brain to gather information about her unfamiliar surroundings and quickly realizes that she must learn to adapt to her new environment and be wild in order to survive. The animals of the island are initially suspicious of the strange visitor and refer to her as "the monster." However, they begin to change their minds when she adopts an orphaned gosling and they see not only her kind and gentle nature but also the benefits her intelligence and strength have on the entire island community. Roz doesn't have emotions exactly but "something close to it," and listeners are left to judge for themselves whether or not Roz experiences feelings. The story is full of important messages without being preachy and doesn't shy away from the harsh truths of being a wild creature. Although the story is sweet and simple, it has the potential to be a great springboard for more serious discussions about the environment and the role of technology in society. Narrator Kate Atwater skillfully transitions from Roz's robotic voice to a variety of animals voices, including lively ChitChat the squirrel and grumpy Rockmouth the fish. VERDICT The open-ended conclusion will leave listeners hoping for more stories about this lovely robot. ["This strong debut middle grade novel by the acclaimed picture book author/illustrator is a first purchase for most middle grade collections"

ABOUT THE CLASS

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

The themes of community and caring for others make *The Wild Robot* an excellent choice for teaching how various elements of literature work together to create an overall theme. The short chapters, detailed illustrations, and lively audio features make the text appropriate for small group use and extension lessons where students will compare the text to the audio and film versions of the text.

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.6.2 Analyze literary text development. a. Determine a theme of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details. b. Incorporate a theme and story details into an objective summary of the text.



2. RL.6.3 Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.
3. RL.6.7 Compare and contrast the experience of reading a story, drama, or poem to listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live version of the text, including contrasting what they "see" and "hear" when reading the text to what they perceive when they listen or watch.

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (1-2 texts, title/author; Note: these texts must also have lit. reviews forms associated with their selection)

1. Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper
2. Holes by Louis Sachar

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

Teacher: _____ Date: 9/26/25
ELA Department Chair: Valerie Briggam Date: 9.29.25
Building Principal: _____ Date: 9-29-25
District Curriculum Administrator: Elaine Ford Date: 10-1-25