MIDDLE SCHOOL | BLUE VALLEY DISTRICT NOVEL RATIONALE

Bearstone by Will Hobbs

English Language Arts, 6th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Fourteen-year-old Cloyd Atcitty is a troubled Native American youth. He has been sent to work on a Colorado farm with Walter, an elderly rancher who has recently lost his wife. Cloyd slowly adjusts to life with Walter after several ups and downs while finding himself and embracing his Ute culture.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM

The following are some, but not all, of the connections to curriculum for this novel.

- Unit 1: Humans and Conflict
 - Essential Question: "How do conflicts in relationships change us?"
- Unit 4: Thematics and Reflection
 - Essential Question: "How do themes reflect humanity?"

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- How do I cite evidence from a text accurately? RL.6.1/Rl.6.1
- How can I determine a theme or central idea of a text? RL.6.2
- What are the elements of a plot? RL.6.3
- How does an author make characters relatable? RL.6.3
- How does conflict help a story progress? RL.6.3
- How does an author use point of view? RL.6.6
- How do I develop my writing to effectively communicate with my audience? W.6.4
- How can I compare and contrast themes across multiple texts to deepen my understanding? RL.6.9
- How are the themes I read in literature reinforced in the writing I produce? W.6.9
- How can I determine appropriate format and styles to best present my writing to an audience? W.6.8
- How can I conduct research to improve the world around me? W.6.7