MIDDLE SCHOOL | BLUE VALLEY DISTRICT NOVEL RATIONALE

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank

English Language Arts, 8th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Beginning on her thirteenth birthday, Anne Frank recounts her daily life in a diary given to her by her parents. The entries begin fairly typical for a young adult, writing about her friendships, crushes, and her attitudes towards school. The diary tracks Anne Frank's movements as her family flees from Germany to the Netherlands to escape the persecution from the Nazis. When the Nazis invade the Netherlands in 1940, Anne's family, along with another family, are forced into hiding and must live in a small, secret annex above Anne's father's office. For the following two years, Anne writes about the lonely and isolating experiences she has while being hidden away in the annex. Ultimately, the Franks are betrayed and arrested by the Nazis, leaving the diary with an abrupt and solemn ending.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM

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

• Unit 3: Human Spirit

Essential Question: How can a person's point of view impact their understanding of themselves, others, and the world around them?

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- RL.8.3 Analyze how particular lines of dialogues or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.
- RI.8.3 Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).
- RL.8.6 Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use or dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor.
- RI.8.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responses to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
- W.8.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
- W.8.8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.