

***The Giver* by Lois Lowry**

English Language Arts, 8th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Jonas lives in a seemingly utopian society where hate, greed, hunger, and want have been eradicated. Society functions according to “sameness,” a code guaranteeing happiness by eliminating individuality. There is no meaningful freedom of choice and jobs are assigned by a group of elders. When he turns 12, they select Jonas to become a receiver, granted unique access to memories of a very different past. Guided by a giver, Jonas learns of bygone worlds and begins to question his society, eventually leading him to reject everything he’s taken for granted.

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?

- **Unit 4: Change**
 - Essential Question: How can we adapt to change in order to better understand and impact the world around us?

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. RL.8.1
- Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text. RL.8.2
- Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision. RL.8.3
- Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor. RL.8.6
- Analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors. RL.8.7
- Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such

- as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new. RL.8.9
- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences. W.8.3
 - Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. W.8.9