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Unit of Study Overview

My overall unit of study is to help connect teens who struggle with mental health learn that they are not alone. It allows students to explore various stories that contain characters that have similar dispositions. During my observations I also noticed that teens, specifically seventh and eighth grade are not proactive when in groups. Teens have limited engagement unless they absolutely must participate. My purpose is to get teens more engaged about what they are reading and being able to interpret and explain to others. Teens should be able to gather central or main ideas and provide supporting sentences. Young Adults should also be able to interact with peers, provide positive feedback and guidance towards one another. The theme of the unit is to connect young adult literature with current teen issues. Specifically, being able to make wise decisions and create a positive sphere of influence through friendship. I started my Unit of Study with a brief overview on my observation and continued with my Center Piece. My center piece I chose, *The Giver* because it is a one-of-a-kind book about a dystopian world, where feelings and emotions are stripped away to ensure a flawless, and orderly existence. I believe this book is helpful to teens because it helps them make wise choices and determine what is best for themselves. The book is also a great reminder about friendships and first loves, something that can be tricky for teens to navigate. This book can be helpful for teens to acknowledge they don’t necessarily have to reject their parents demands but make wiser choices that help benefit them in the future. A teen that learns to choose wisely can have a valuable future if they choose the best path. Because *The Giver* is such a well-read book, there are several Exeter Qualities the book includes. The first and main Exeter Quality is “Imaginative and well- structured plots going beyond simple chronologies to include time shifts and differing perspectives.” *The Giver* follows an imaginative world that demonstrates different plots and perspectives from various characters. Based off the Exeter Qualities the type of genre is very easily displayed, fantasy. However, it does follow the path of three teens adjusting to a new daily routine and learning who they are as individuals. I included additional stories that have similar themes, as well as a brief explanation of each book. I also included several movies that are available based on the book. Additionally, I included a simple poem, to be reviewed. Enabling teens to interpret and understand various poems, meter, and rhyme. I included some thoughts to think of prior to reading the novel. I included writing work to take place throughout the novel, such as journaling for each chapter as well as student collaboration for recaps. Furthermore, I created a group project that requires all to participate. In order to verify the adolescent has been studying along, they are to journal and contribute to a dystopian world.

I hope the unit of study is more engaging and helps teens comprehend the overall message being provided.