

Wonder

Palacio, R. J.

This is the story of August Pullman who was born with a facial deformity that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. He wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. The novel provides many opportunities for rich discussion.

Collections: ARC-BC

Subjects: English Language Arts
Grades 5-7

Evaluation Date: Jul 2013



[ARC-BC](#)




Social Considerations

Resource Evaluation

CURRICULUM FIT

Does the resource support BC curriculum?

 Extensively

English Language Arts - This is a highly engaging, stylistically rich novel that will allow students to explore theme and character development, as well as provide opportunities for rich personal responses and conversations about issues highly relevant to their lives.

SUGGESTED CLASSROOM USAGE

This would be an excellent read aloud for children in grades 5-7. It would undoubtedly spark meaningful conversations amongst students concerning issues of social bullying, courageous actions, friendships and the realities of growing up. It would also be an excellent choice for literature circles, fitting in well with the themes listed above. It is highly recommended that the teacher read the novel first to ensure it is a good fit for students as there are sensitive themes.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Gender Roles, Identity & Sexual Orientation

Biggie is a prominent gangster whose girlfriend is a French U. N. worker. Biggie has fathered one child with a previous girlfriend, and is subsequently expecting another child with this French girlfriend. Females appear dependent on males: gangsters in the ghetto provide protection. The "nice" U. N. worker seems to fill the stereotypical role of being attracted to the "bad" gangster.

Ability/Disability

The main character, Auggie, has extreme facial disfigurement and struggles with the reaction others have with his appearance. Some individuals are cruel. Auggie longs to be accepted for who he is rather than his outward appearance.

Violence

A confrontation ensues and students from Auggie's school protect him from a group from another school. No serious physical injuries occur, although Auggie's hearing aids are lost and his sweatshirt is torn. The fight indicates his acceptance into the school. There are instances of bullying and students saying, writing, or texting mean comments to one another.

Do the social considerations support, rather than detract from, student learning?



Extensively

The main character, Auggie, is subjected to bullying and struggles to find acceptance in his middle school. He is brave and perseveres. It takes time but he makes friends and eventually is accepted as an "ordinary kid. "

GENERAL CONTENT

Content

Is the resource engaging?



Extensively

Is the content current for the intended curriculum and grade?



Extensively

Is the content accurate for the intended curriculum and grade?



Extensively

Is the content relevant and important for student broad understandings?



Extensively

Audience

Is the content appropriate to the emotional maturity and cognitive level of students?



Moderately

Does the resource provide opportunities for creative and critical thinking?



Extensively

Is the level of detail appropriate?



Extensively

Is the language use appropriate to the emotional maturity and cognitive level of students?



Extensively

The language and style of the novel is age appropriate, but given the emotional maturity required to empathise with the main character and the family's struggles, some students may find this a challenging read.

TECHNICAL DESIGN

The resource is a novel and is not designed specifically as a teaching resource.

PRINT NOVEL

Does the text show insight into the complexity of the human condition?



Extensively

Does the text broaden students' experiences and understanding?



Extensively

To what degree is this text stylistically rich?



Extensively

Plot description

Born with several genetic abnormalities, Auggie longs to be "ordinary. " Inside, he knows he's like every other kid, but even after multiple surgeries, he has facial disfigurements so pronounced that people look away or express their horror. Auggie worries when he learns he has been enrolled in middle school rather than be home-schooled. He is brave in the face of cruelty and eventually finds alliances. Auggie struggles to find his niche and others learn that his is in fact an "ordinary" kid.

Genre

- Contemporary

Literary Highlights

- Point of view

Type

- Novel

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**Reading Level**

- At intended grade level(s)

Awards include: School Library Journal Best of Children's Books 2012 Publishers Weekly Best of Children's Books 2012 Kirkus Reviews Best of Children's Books 2012 Booklist Best of Children's Books 2012

GRADES AND SUBJECTS**Subjects**

- English Language Arts: 5-7

ADDITIONAL INFO**Copyright**

2012

Primary identifier (ISBN)

9780375869020