

Unit 1: 7TH DEI

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **Full Year**
Status: **Published**

GOALS/PURPOSE

This crosswalk will provide our district's educators of seventh grade students with relevant and developmentally-appropriate information and resources to help implement the legislative requirements of the 2019 History and Contributions of Individuals with Disabilities and LGBT (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.35-6), Diversity and Inclusion statutes (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.36a). This crosswalk will aid teachers and students in their consideration of diverse histories, experiences, and perspectives that promote the dignity and respect of all individuals. All students deserve equitable access to high quality education that is inclusive of the rich diversity of the state of New Jersey.

ELA.RI.MF.7.6	Compare and contrast texts to analyze the unique qualities of different mediums, including the integration of information from multiple formats and sources to develop deeper understanding of the concept, topic or subject and resolve conflicting information.
ELA.RI.AA.7.7	Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.
ELA.RL.CT.7.8	Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of an event, time, place, or character and a historical or scientific account of the same period or event as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history and/or events.
ELA.RI.CT.7.8	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how two or more authors writing informational texts about the same topic shape their presentations of key information by emphasizing different evidence or advancing different interpretations of facts.
ELA.W.AW.7.1.A	Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
ELA.W.AW.7.1.B	Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
ELA.W.IW.7.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aid in comprehension.
ELA.W.IW.7.2.B	Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
ELA.W.WP.7.4	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning; flexibly making editing and revision choices and sustaining effort to complete complex writing tasks; and focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
ELA.W.WR.7.5	Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

READ ALOUD TEXTS/EXCERPTS

- **LGBTQ+**

- *The Girl from the Sea: A Graphic Novel* by Molly Knox Ostertag

- **Length:** 256 pages (PDF files attached) [link to partial read aloud by author](#)

- **Genre/Format:** Fantasy Graphic Novel
- **Age range:** 9-16 years
- **Description:** A graphic novel about a teen girl and her first love. A more detailed summary is provided in the Amazon product description, “Fifteen-year-old Morgan has a secret: She can't wait to escape the perfect little island where she lives. She's desperate to finish high school and escape her sad divorced mom, her volatile little brother, and worst of all, her great group of friends...who don't understand Morgan at all. Because really, Morgan's biggest secret is that she has *a lot* of secrets, including the one about wanting to kiss another girl. Then one night, Morgan is saved from drowning by a mysterious girl named Keltie. The two become friends and suddenly life on the island doesn't seem so stifling anymore. But Keltie has some secrets of her own. And as the girls start to fall in love, everything they're each trying to hide will find its way to the surface...whether Morgan is ready or not.”
- **Discussion Topics:**
- **Individuals with disabilities**
 - [Fish in a Tree](#) by Lynda Mulally Hunt
 - **Length:** [320 pages](#); (approximately 5.75 hour listen linked above)
 - **Genre/Format:** Realistic fiction novel
 - **Age range:** 9-12 years
 - **Description:** Protagonist Ally has a secret that she is guarding with disruptive and avoidant behaviors; she struggles to read. She has been able to hide her disability at her previous schools, but her new teacher, Mr. Daniels, helps her gain confidence in her ability to learn by recognizing her strengths; he recognizes the smart and talented student hiding behind the troublemaker reputation. With her teacher's support and guidance, Ally learns about her dyslexia and realizes that it will not hold her back.
 - **Discussion Topics:** overcoming setbacks in school, impact of dyslexia, growth vs. fixed mindset
- **Latinx**
 - [The Other Half of Happy](#) by Rebecca Balcárcel
 - **Length:** 352 pages ([available on Epic](#))
 - **Genre/Format:** Realistic fiction novel
 - **Age range:** 8-12 years
 - **Description:** This is an award-winning novel featuring seventh-grade Latinx protagonist, Quijana. This is a coming of age novel with the following main conflicts outlined in the Amazon product description: “One-half Guatemalan, one-half American: When Quijana's Guatemalan cousins move to town, her dad seems ashamed that she doesn't know more about her family's heritage. One-half crush, one-half buddy: When Quijana meets Zuri and Jayden, she knows she's found true friends. But she can't help the growing feelings she has for Jayden. One-half kid, one-half grown-up: Quijana spends her nights Skyping with her ailing grandma and trying to figure out what's going on with her increasingly hard-to-reach brother.” Check out these additional teaching resources provided on the [author's website](#).
 - **Discussion Topics:** becoming more responsible with age, finding your identity, complex family relationship
- **Asian American & Pacific Islanders**
 - [American Born Chinese](#) by Gene Luen Yang
 - **Length:** [240 pages](#) (approximately 1 hour read-aloud)
 - **Genre/Format:** Fantasy Graphic Novel

- **Age range:** 12-18 years old
- **Description:** This graphic novel contains three narrative threads, which do not connect until a twist is revealed towards the end of the novel. Each narrative thread features a different protagonist and cast of characters with their own storyline, summarized as follows: “Jin Wang, who moves to a new neighborhood with his family only to discover that he’s the only Chinese-American student at his new school; the powerful Monkey King, subject of one of the oldest and greatest Chinese fables; and Chin-Kee, a personification of the ultimate negative Chinese stereotype, who is ruining his cousin Danny’s life with his yearly visits.” These characters have also recently been brought to life in a new series available for streaming on Disney+.
- **Discussion Topics:** dismantling harmful stereotypes, self-acceptance, friendship

[The Girl from the Sea Part 1 .pdf](#)

[The Girl from the Sea Part 2a .pdf](#)

[The Girl from the Sea Part 2b .pdf](#)

[The Girl from the Sea Part 2c .pdf](#)

ARTICLES AND/OR VIDEO RESOURCES (FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES)

WEBSITES (FOR STUDENTS TO INTERACT WITH)

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS (LESSON PLANS, REPRODUCIBLES, ETC.)
