Graphic Novels and Literature

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

Unit Overview

In this unit, students will read and analyze the graphic novel White Bird. This is a interdisciplinary unit with lessons also be conducted in Social Studies and Writing. Lessons in this unit also satsify NJ state laws regarding the teaching of the Holocaust and other Genocides. Students will examine the causes of the Holocaust.

Enduring Understandings

Proficient readers are able to understand the story and extend meaning, developing their own ideas beyond the text.
Proficient readers are able to use comprehension strategies to enhance their story experience and understanding of various elements of a story.
Some challenging situations bring about long-lasting change.
Relationships and respect for nature and the environment can exist in many forms.

Essential Questions

How does conflict affect the story's plot?
What is the difference between internal and external conflict?
What valuable lessons do characters learn when experiencing a hardship?
How do decisions you make prepare you to face challenges with courage?
What attitude toward life and nature do these accounts convey?
What do these accounts communicate to you about the relationship between humans and animals?

Learning Objectives

Read stories about people who confront tough decisions with courage and ingenuity.
Read stories about the natural world and people’s place within it.
Analyze the literary elements found in fiction and non-fiction text.
Apply active reading strategies for reading fiction and non-fiction accounts.
Develop critical thinking skills about varying texts and be able to compare and contrast differing accounts of the same situation.
Use the following reading and thinking skills: making predictions, inferring, sequencing events and plot, cause and effect, making informed judgments, analyzing arguments, using critical thinking, drawing conclusions, identifying author’s purpose and main idea.
Use vocabulary skills including context clues and ancillary materials to understand unfamiliar words.

Analyze fiction and non-fiction through writing and discussion.
Readiness to read independently and successfully.

Standards: Content

L	Language
L.SS.7.1	Demonstrate command of the system and structure of the English language when writing or speaking.
L.SS.7.1.A	Explain the function of phrases and clauses in general and their function in specific sentences.
L.SS.7.1.B	Choose among simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences to signal differing relationships among ideas.
L.SS.7.1.C	Place phrases and clauses within a sentence, recognizing and correcting misplaced and dangling modifiers.
L.SS.7.1.D	Use a comma to separate coordinate adjectives (e.g., It was a fascinating, enjoyable movie but not He wore an old green shirt).
L.SS.7.1.E	Recognize spelling conventions.
L.KL.7.2	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
L.KL.7.2.A	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases.
L.KL.7.2.B	Gather vocabulary knowledge when selecting a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
L.KL.7.2.C	Choose language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely, recognizing and eliminating wordiness and redundancy.
L.VL.7.3	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 7 reading and content, including technical meanings, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
L.VL.7.3.A	Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
L.VL.7.3.C	Analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.
L.VL.7.3.D	Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.
L.VL.7.3.E	Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
L.VI.7.4	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
R	Reading
RL.CR.7.1	Cite several pieces of textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what a literary text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
RI.CR.7.1	Cite several pieces of textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what an informational text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
RL.CI.7.2	Determine a theme in a literary text (e.g., stories, plays or poetry) and explain how it is

	conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
RI.CI.7.2	Determine a central idea in an informational text and explain how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
RL.IT.7.3	Analyze how particular elements of a text interact including how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.
RI.IT.7.3	Analyze how particular elements of a text interact including how a text makes connections and distinctions among individuals, events, and ideas (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).
RL.TS.7.4	Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text and how it contributes to the text as a whole, including how a drama's or poem's form or structure (e.g., soliloquy, sonnet) contributes to its meaning.
RI.TS.7.4	Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text and how it contributes to the text as a whole, including using knowledge of text structures (e.g., cause-effect, proposition-support) and genre features (e.g., graphics, captions, indexes) to organize and analyze important information.
RL.PP.7.5	Determine how an author conveys or develops perspective or purpose in a text through contrasting the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text.
RI.PP.7.5	Determine how an author conveys or develops perspective or purpose in a text through distinguishing their position from that of others using evidence.
RL.MF.7.6	Compare and contrast texts (e.g., a written story, drama, or poem) to its audio, filmed, staged, or multimedia version and analyze the unique qualities of different mediums, including the effects of techniques unique to each medium (e.g., lighting, sound, color, or camera focus and angles in a film).
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.
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.
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.
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.
W	Writing
W.AW.7.1	Write arguments on discipline-specific content (e.g., social studies, science, technical subjects, English/Language Arts) to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
W.IW.7.2	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes) to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
W.NW.7.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
SL	Speaking and Listening

SL.PE.7.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Standards: Interdisciplinary

9.4.8.IML.1	Critically curate multiple resources to assess the credibility of sources when searching for information.
8.2.8.ITH.1	Explain how the development and use of technology influences economic, political, social, and cultural issues.
6.3.8.CivicsHR.1	Construct an argument as to the source of human rights and how they are best protected.

Assessment Evidence

Formative	Class discussions, activities, in-class activities, Graphic Organizers, Kahoot, Exit Tickets, book clubs, questions from leveled readers, teacher observations of student's phonic awareness, and oral reading skills, running records of students, Latic checklists, conferences.
Summative	Test, Quiz, Project, Leveled-Reading Assessments, Writing Assessments, Problem Based Learning Student Presentations.
Alternative & Benchmark	Alternative - Read to the student and chart oral responses. Word banks, sentence frames, oral responses, graphic organizers, observations, portfolios of student work, orally administered assessments, and anecdotal notes. Benchmark – LinkIt Benchmark Assessment, Reading Levels, TPA
Assessment Evidence Resource	

Instructional Resources

Textbooks, Maps, Laptops, Smart Board, Primary & Secondary Source Documents, Commonlit.org, Readworks.org, Leveled Readers, Online Platform, Whitebird, Teacher-generated materials and resources, Readwritethink.org

Instructional Resource List

Curricular Mandates

Below are the curricular requirements as defined in NJ Administrative Code and Statute

	Amistad	X	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
X	Holocaust		LGBT and Disabilities (Grades 6-12)
	Climate Change		Asian American & Pacific Islander

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Competencies

NJ Social and Emotional Learning Competencies & Sub-Competencies

	Self-Awareness	X	Relationship Skills
	Responsible Decision-Making		Social Awareness
	Self-Management		

21st Century Skills & Themes

X	Global and Cultural Awareness		Technology Literacy		Planning and Budgeting
X	Creativity and Innovation		Financial Institutions		Risk Management and Insurance
X	Information and Media Literacy		Digital Citizenship		Economic and Government Influences
X	Critical Thinking and Problem Solving		Credit Profile		Career Awareness and Planning
	Civic Financial Responsibility		Financial Psychology		