

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

English Language Arts, 10th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

A brilliant, albeit socially inept, teenager named Christopher discovers the body of his neighbor's dead dog. The police mistake Christopher to be the murderer, and after his innocence is proven, he is determined to discover who the real dog-killer is. During his investigation, he discovers information about his mother that his father kept hidden. Devastated by this discovery, Christopher runs away from home and traverses across England in search of his mother.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM

The following are some, but not all, of the connections to curriculum for this novel.

- **Unit 1: Environment and Identity**
 - Essential Question: "How do adversity and environment influence an individual's behavior and identity?"
- **Unit 3: Seeking Knowledge**
 - Essential Question: "How does my bias impact my perception of a given topic?"
 - Big Idea: "Students will understand that environmental influences shape a character's attributes as well as an author's viewpoint"

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening. RL.10.10
- Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme. RL.10.3
- Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it, and manipulate time create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise. RL.10.5
- Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature. RL.10.6
- Analyze and evaluate the representation of a subject or a key scene in multiple mediums-- including media, artistic, and other visual formats. RL.10.7