

HIGH SCHOOL | BLUE VALLEY DISTRICT NOVEL RATIONALE

***The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald**

English Language Arts, 11th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Great Gatsby, set in New York in the 1920s and narrated by Midwesterner Nick Carraway, explores the story of Jay Gatsby. In order to gain the love of Daisy, who rejected him because of his lack of money and status, Gatsby becomes wealthy through questionable means. Daisy, at the time of the novel, is married to Tom Buchanan, a very wealthy but immoral playboy. Through the exploits of the characters, Fitzgerald debunks the myth of the American Dream and ultimately reveals how greed leads to the moral decay of society.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM*

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

- **Unit 1: Language and Perspective**
 - Essential Questions: “How do texts reflect society both historically and linguistically?” and “How can crafting your story reflect personal identity?”
- **Unit 3: Universal Human Experience**
 - Essential Questions: “How does sustained inquiry of the past inform and motivate change?” and “How do we prepare for an uncertain future?”

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. RL.11.2
- Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant. RL.11.6
- Demonstrate knowledge of foundational works of American and world literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics. RL.11.9
- 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. RL.11.1
- Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem, evaluating how each version interprets the source text. RL.11.7
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information
- clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content. W.11.2

Updated Spring 2021

**based on BV School District Curriculum adopted Fall 2020*