MIDDLE SCHOOL | BLUE VALLEY DISTRICT NOVEL RATIONALE

All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team by Christina Soontorvnat

English Language Arts, 6th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

On June 23, 2018, twelve young players of the Wild Boars soccer team and their coach enter a cave in northern Thailand seeking an afternoon's adventure. But when they turn to leave, rising floodwaters block their path out. The boys are trapped! Before long, news of the missing team spreads, launching a seventeen-day rescue operation involving thousands of rescuers from around the globe. People begin to wonder: how long can a group of ordinary kids survive in complete darkness, with no food or clean water? Luckily, the Wild Boars are a very extraordinary "ordinary" group. Combining first hand interviews of rescue workers with in-depth science and details of the region's culture and religion, author Christina Soontornvat--who was visiting family in Northern Thailand when the Wild Boars went missing--masterfully shows how both the complex engineering operation above ground and the mental struggles of the thirteen young people below proved critical in the life-or-death mission. Meticulously researched and generously illustrated with photographs, this page-turner includes an author's note describing her experience meeting the team, detailed source notes, and a bibliography to fully immerse readers in the most ambitious cave rescue in history.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM

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

- Unit 2: Knowledge & Growth
 - Essential Question: How can new information impact our view of the world?
- Unit 3: Art & Argument
 - Essential Question: How can diverse perspectives help our collective understanding?
- Unit 4: Thematics & Reflection
 - Essential Question: How do themes reflect humanity?

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

RI.6.1 Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

- RI.6.2 Determine a central idea of a text and how that idea is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- RI.6.5 Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.
- Rl.6.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.
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- RI.6.7 Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
- RI.6.8 Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.
- RI.6.10 By the end of the year read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of grades 6-8, text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.