

Year 7, 'A Monster Calls', English Department

Rationale and Context of Unit:	Core curriculum content:	Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary explicitly taught:
<p>Y7 will have just completed the Trash unit as well as 'His Dark Materials'. This unit will extend their skills in novel study. The novel addresses some emotive topics which link well to the themes in Trash (loyalty, friendship and family) and builds upon ideas in 'His Dark Materials' (death, familial relationships and loyalty).</p> <p>Link to future learning: language analysis throughout KS3 and into KS4. Appreciation of reading and reading for enjoyment. The author, Patrick Ness, is a popular children/young adult fiction author, therefore through reading this novel, students may feel encouraged to seek out other opportunities to read his work.</p> <p><i>Links to NC:</i></p>	<p>Analysis of language to make inferences and gain understanding.</p> <p>Gain an understanding of the motivation and attitudes of characters.</p> <p>Descriptive writing with planning and editing.</p> <p>Use of figurative language.</p> <p>An appreciation of stories and their moral message.</p> <p>Reading aloud.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Foreshadowing, protagonist, significance, motive, apoplectic, juxtaposition, connotation, fable, pathetic-fallacy, ancient, parson, dell, apothecary, concoction, congregation, sermon, ailment, parishioner, enlightened, optimism</i>
Challenge and Support:	Worldwide learning/ links to 21 st century:	Cultural capital/ Industry/ Enrichment:
<p>Stretch, challenge and support is evident in all resources and lesson PPTs.</p>	<p>Research on yew trees and their historical significance.</p> <p>Discussions around illness, specifically cancer.</p> <p>Lessons based on English folklore: Herne the Hunter, Cernunnos and The Green Man.</p>	<p>Discussion around family relationships and dynamics.</p> <p>Possible theatre trip to see stage production.</p> <p>Empathy and sympathy.</p> <p>Discussions around bullying and intimidation.</p>
Historical, Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural context:	Cross curricular links/ literacy/numeracy:	Common misconceptions:
<p>Research into yew trees produces interesting historical facts.</p>	<p>There are links to: History: English folklore. Historical significance of yew trees. Life 150 years ago.</p>	<p>Students may not fully understand what is wrong with Conor's mother.</p>

<p>The protagonist Conor faces a number of dilemmas in the novel: moral value. The theme of friendship and conflict between peers is a recurring theme of the novel: social development. The moral message of stories is explored three times in the novel. Empathy: writing from the perspective of the main character: social and spiritual development. The family situation of the main character: social and moral development. Questioning in chapter 15 – what do you know about life 150 years ago? : historical context. Behaviour expectations: what is right and wrong, what can be excused/understood? Understanding the motives of the characters.</p>	<p>Science: natural remedies and cancer treatment. Old English language such as ‘apothecary’. Story sequencing/chance to write own short story in handmade books. Geography: Conor’s father lives in another country; an understanding of just how far away he is and the impact that can have.</p>	
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Assessment timeline:

- *Skills required for assessment are routinely revisited throughout scheme of work.*
- *WAGOLs and checklists are routinely used.*
- *Final assessment at end of unit.*

Home learning

Lesson 1 HW: Research yew trees. This helps the reader to relate to the importance of the yew tree in the novel.

Lesson 5: Write a diary entry for Conor. Empathise with how he would feeling.

Feedback

- *Routine use of self and peer assessment.*

- *Feedback four for final assessment.*

Length of unit (duration indicated in lessons)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
Unit 1							Unit 2							Unit 3						Unit 4				Unit 5					Unit 6									
Modern Novel: Trash by Andy Mulligan							Modern Play: His Dark Materials							Modern Novel: A Monster Calls						World War One Poetry				Modern Novel: Welcome to Nowhere					Free choice/over-run									