***To Kill a Mockingbird***

**Independent Read**

* Students will connect themes between selections from two disparate seeming novels – Echo by Morgenroth and To Kill a Mockingbird by Lee.
* Students will connect similarities between characters, conflict and character decisions in the two selections.
* Students will select a book connected to a theme in To Kill a Mockingbird.
* Students will analyze To Kill a Mockingbird and the selected book as they read both.
* Students will create/write and present a book talk using a visual aid showing understanding of the two books and the themes

1. Classroom: Introduce the project and briefly the themes...but no intro to the book itself.
2. Library – TL will lead students through a reading of pages 50-52 in Echo and pages 10-11 in To Kill a Mockingbird asking students to note similarities and differences
3. Library – TL will lead a discussion/Q & A on the comparison between the selections pointing out how two different authors from different time periods with different topics can still have a lot in common
4. Library – Students will browse pre-selected books on different themes and check one out. Possible themes include:
   1. Race
   2. Prejudice
   3. Good versus Evil
   4. Crime
   5. Wrongful Imprisonment
   6. Disability/Isolation
   7. Brother/Sisters/Family Relationships
   8. Death of a Parent
   9. Small Town Life
5. Classroom: Students will read both the books and analyze for various traits and commonalities – activities led by classroom teacher
6. Library: Students will go through a “tech tour” of possible technologies to use to make an engaging book talk with a multi-media component that compares their books. Students will be briefly introduced to some new tech pieces they may be interested in and may not have used yet.

Created by Kerri Brown Parker, Millbrook High School, 2011

**Literature Comparison**

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee and *Echo* by Kate Morgenroth

Directions: Work in groups to complete the following:

**Read the beginning of chapter 13 from *Echo* (groups can read aloud or independently)**

1. Is Justin to blame for what happened to Billy? Yes No Explain:
2. Can Justin be arrested for what happened to Billy?
3. Is what happened to Billy the only thing driving Justin to what he does with the pills?

**Read pages 10 and 11 from Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* (groups can read aloud or independently).**

\*\* Note – a “beadle” is a person who works at a church and a “flivver” is a cheap, old car

1. Is the treatment “fair” between Arthur (Boo) Radley and the other boys? Yes No Explain:
2. Is there a clear explanation for Boo (Arthur) Radley’s behavior with the scissors?
3. Should Boo Radley be in jail? Yes No Explain your answer:

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As a group compare the characters, situations, ideas and themes in these two readings. Be prepared to share what you have discussed. Take notes on similarities and differences below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Similarities** | **Differences** |
|  |  |