ELED 3113  
Fall 2018  
Hayley Nowlin

Number the Stars

Author: Lois Lowry

Genre: Historical fiction

Guided reading level: U

Awards: Newbery Honor Medal

Multicultural: Yes

Protagonist(s): Annemarie- she’s a round and dynamic character. She’s a tall and lanky young girl from Denmark. Throughout the book, she grows and learns how to be brave.

Antagonist(s): The Nazi’s- they are flat and static characters. They don’t change throughout the book, because they’re mean and hateful people the whole entire story.

Setting(s): Denmark, during the second World War, about 1940’s.

Theme(s): Bravery, warfare, prejudice, and friendship

Point of view: third person limited

Conflict- Annemarie vs. the guards (man vs. man) the guards were mean to her and they were a constant danger to her and her family. The Jewish people vs. the guards (man vs. society) the Jewish people in Europe were in constant danger and were oppressed by the Nazis, which made up the government in Germany and other countries.

* + Exposition- Annemarie’s close friend, Ellen Rosen and her family are Jewish in the time of the second World War. This puts them in danger.
  + Rising action- Annemarie’s family helps hide Ellen from the German Soldiers. They end up going to Annemarie’s uncle Henrik’s house while Ellen’s family is hiding elsewhere.
  + Climax- Annemarie runs to deliver the secret packet to her uncle Henrik. She has to speak smoothly around the guards to save the day.
  + Falling action- The packet is delivered to her uncle Henrik, and the Jews he carried in his boat to Sweden all made it there safely.
  + Resolution- The war ends soon after, and Annemarie wears her friend Ellen’s necklace until she arrives back home.

Personal Response

We read this book for our lit circle assignment in class and I really enjoyed getting to read this book. I love reading about history and stories about strong feminine characters because I think it’s important for girls to know that they can be strong, too. I enjoyed reading about Annemarie’s story and after I got finished reading, I truly felt like one of the family. I loved that it’s based off of a true story, because it was such an amazing underdog story of growth, bravery, and triumphing over the enemy. I also think it’s a great way for students to learn about how people were treated during the Holocaust, and why it’s so important to make sure it doesn’t happen again while we are living.

Activity

While the book, *Number the Stars,* is being read, the students will be given a handful of star shaped cutouts. The students will write down vocabulary words that they aren’t familiar with on each star, and more will be provided if needed. The students will write the page number, the sentence where the word is mentioned, and using one of the many resources they have in the classroom (dictionary, computer, or phone) the students will write the definition of the unknown word. After the book is finished, the students will put all of their stars together, back to back, to create one 3-D star that I will hang from the ceiling. This activity is useful because the students are finding their own definitions and it’s more of a hands-on vocabulary activity.

Source: Pinterest