

Literature Circle: Out of My Mind

Grades:	4th – 7th
Day of Week:	Monday
Time of Class:	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm ET
Length of Class:	10 weeks
Semester:	Fall 2020
Tuition:	\$250.00

Class Dates:

Week 1: September 14

Week 2: September 21

Off September 28 - October 9 (Yom Kippur and Sukkot)

Week 3: October 12

Week 4: October 19

Week 5: October 26

Week 6: November 2

Week 7: November 9

Week 8: November 16

November 23 – Thanksgiving Week

Week 9: November 30

Week 10: December 7

Make Up Week: December 14

Instructor's Name:	Eva Goldstein - Meola
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Instructor's Phone:	786-605-0694
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Office Hours:	By appointment

Description of Class:

In this class we will be introduced to Melody, who was born with cerebral palsy and has never spoken a word. She is a brilliant fifth grader trapped in an uncontrollable body. Her world is enhanced by insight and intellect but gyped by physical limitations and misunderstandings. She will never sing or dance, talk on the phone, or whisper secrets to her friends. She's not complaining, though; she's planning and fighting the odds

Students will benefit from being introduced to Melody and her gutsy, candid, and compelling story. It speaks volumes and reveals the quiet strength and fortitude it takes to overcome disabilities and the misconceptions that go with them.

Together, we will read, discuss, analyze, write and explore both Melody's world as well as investigate the truth about others who live with differences. We will focus on the various literary analysis elements such as characters, setting, plot, conflict, climax and resolution.

What is a Literature Circle?

In literature circles, small groups of students gather together to discuss a piece of literature in depth. The discussion is guided by students' responses to what they have read. You may hear talk about events and characters in the book, the author's craft, or personal experiences related to the story. Literature circles provide a way for students to engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to books. Collaboration is at the heart of this approach. Students reshape and add onto their understanding as they construct meaning with other readers. Finally, literature circles guide students to deeper understanding of what they read through structured discussion and extended written and artistic response.

Class Approach:

The class will be a combination of reading comprehension, journal writing (reflection), discussion, lecture and projects.

Textbook:

Out of My Mind

By Sharon Draper

https://www.amazon.com/Out-My-Mind-Sharon-Draper/dp/1416971718/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=out+of+my+mind&qid=1579987767&sr=8-1

**** PLEASE DO NOT HAVE STUDENTS PRE-READ BOOK. ****

Additional Supplies/Resources Needed:

Microphone / Headset for Class Discussions

single subject spiral notebook for journal reflections

Pencil / Pen

Colored Pencils / Markers / Crayons

Basic Art Supplies

Access to PowerPoint (if student chooses this option)

Requirements:

A sensitivity to other students and any emotions that may come out during the reading of the book as well as discussions.

Students are EXPECTED to participate in class discussions.

Weekly Homework:

Approximately a 60 – 90 minutes weekly.

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Homework Policy:

It is expected that students will keep up with the reading to be able to fully participate in class.

Grading Scale:

Exceeds Expectations

Meets Expectations

Not Yet

Incomplete

If parents would like a traditional letter grade, please notify the teacher by week two of the class.

Anticipated Weekly Course Schedule:

Week	Topic
Week 1	What is Cerebral Palsy? Getting to Know Sharon Draper
Week 2	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 3	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 4	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 5	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 6	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 7	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 8	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 9	<i>Out of My Mind</i>
Week 10	Wrap Up Jeopardy