**Unit 5 – *Cities of Gold*** – **Argumentative Unit**

**Start Date 5/19/15**

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**Unit Essential Question:** – **Why does place matter?**

In this unit, students will read to discover how

cities, real and imagined, define individuals and communities.

**Unit Expectations/Learning Targets**

**I can:**

**Reading:**

* I can determine and explain the main theme of a poem or story.
* I can analyze the structure of a poem.
* I can explain the effect of an author’s use description and figurative language.
* I can analyze how descriptive details impact the mood and tone of a poem / story.
* I can define and explain perception.
* I can explain how a narrator’s point of view can affect a reader’s perception.
* I can analyze the meaning of specific lines within a poem.
* I can make inferences about character’s feelings, thoughts and motives and support each with the best evidence.

**Writing:**

* I can write an informative essay comparing and contrasting two texts on the same topic.
* I can respond to paired passages using evidence from both texts.
* I can include an introduction.
* I can include a concluding statement.

**Unit Texts:**

1. “City” by Langston Hughes
2. “Song of the Builders” by Jessie Wilmore Murton
3. “Our City “by Franciso Alarcon
4. from “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” by L. Frank Baum
5. *from “Here is New York”* by E.B. White
6. *from “Reading Lolita in Tehran”* by Azar Nafisi

**Independent Reading**

Students will independently read one of the following novels throughout the unit and complete assigned activities.

1. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by Frank L. Baum
2. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
3. Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson

**Unit Learning Activities include but not limited to:**

* Admit/Exit Tickets
* Summarizing Central Ideas
* Close Readings
* Task Cards
* Self-Evaluations
* Reflections
* Short response questions
* Selective response questions
* Discussions
* Presentations
* Group Tasks
* Independent Tasks

***Assessments***

* Admit/Exit Tickets
* Mid Unit Assessment ***- June 8, 2015***
* Teacher Made Quizzes
* Formal Writing Task: – ***June 10, 2015***
* Final Exam/Performance Task :– ***June 15, 2015***
* Culminating Task: – ***June 17, 2015***

**Formal Writing Task**

Choose one writer. Argue which narrative strategies best convey the author’s perspective about the city.

In your essay be sure to:

* State the author’s claim
* Identify at least three reasons the author used to support his/her claim
* Cite textual evidence to support your analysis
* Include a clear introduction, body paragraphs and a conclusion

Reading Responses

Students will read and respond to novels daily.

**Culminating Task**

Choose either to:

1. Design and create a poster collage that captures the spirit of New York City or another city

**or**

2. Design and create a virtual or physical model of your own city.

Then, using your poetic and essay writing skills develop a poem that conveys your perspective about the city. Further develop the description of that city by creating a story of said city.

Be sure to:

* Create a poem and a story describing your city
* Use varying author’s writing and narrative strategies to convey your perspective of the city
* Design and create an original city