

Implementing Common Core Standards

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1 Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

We will have the students think deeply about the character and the events in the story by making inferences and drawing conclusions during the reading. We will learn that authors don't always spell out every event and nuance which takes place during the novel. As good readers, we must draw these conclusions and read between the lines as we delve deeply into each novel. With each statement or conclusion that the students draw, they will support their statements by quoting their proof directly from the novel.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3 Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

We will implement this standard during this unit after we read the two novels. Then, we will compare the two characters, Deza and Esperanza, by looking at how similar and how different their experiences were during the Great Depression. We will analyze their motivations, personalities, and decisions as characters. We will also determine how these characters interact with others in the novels. The students will also compare the settings and events which take place in both stories.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

Students will use their context clues to determine the meanings of unknown words. We will also discuss the symbolism which exists in *Esperanza Rising*.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.9 Compare and contrast stories in the same genre (e.g., mysteries and adventure stories) on their approaches to similar themes and topics.

This standard will be addressed after both novels are read by the class. We will look at both the genre of historical fiction and how they beautifully weave in the history which supports the story. We will also discuss the commonalities of the era of the Great Depression and how no matter the culture, all people suffered during this time.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.7 Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

This standard will be addressed during the second part of my unit when my students will research a famous African American or Latino/Hispanic American and write a biographical report on their lives. They will independently conduct research on their famous person, gather these facts, and create a report. They will then write a bio-poem on their person, which will expose them to a different genre of writing.