

## WONDER by R. J. Palacio

### Lesson 1: Introduction to Wonder

We will begin our first lesson with a **reflection** on the work we did on *Holes*; we will discuss what we found interesting and discovered from our work together. Our work on *Wonder* will start with a **sharing of our thoughts** on the book and a discussion about what we found interesting about the story and how it is written. The students will then be supplied with some **information about the author and the context of the book**. Using this information, we will talk about how an author's history and the context of a book informs our reading of it. We will then think about how the **structure of the story** and **multiple narrative voices** influences the way the story is told and received.

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#### **Preparation required:**

- Read *Wonder*.
  - Think about what thoughts you have on the book and would like to share with the group.
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#### **Homework:**

What would be **lost and gained** if the story had a **third-person omniscient narrator**?

## **Lesson 2: Discussion of themes**

In lesson two, we will move on to focussing on some of the **major themes** in the novel. We will use a combination of **class discussion** and **looking at extracts from the book** to gain a rich understanding and appreciation of *how* and *why* these themes are explored in the book. When looking at the selected extracts we will also practice our **close analysis skills** (i.e. unpicking the structure, language, and literary techniques used by the author).

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### **Preparation required:**

- Complete the homework task from Lesson 1.
  - Think about the following themes and how they are explored in the novel:
    - Differences
    - Outside vs. Inside
    - Kindness
    - Popularity
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### **Homework:**

**'Julian, unlike the other characters, does not finally learn a lesson about kindness'.**  
**Why did Palacio choose not to have him change?**

### **Lesson 3: Homework discussion and consolidation**

Our final lesson will involve a **discussion of the homework** completed by the students (it is therefore *crucial* that they have completed this homework in advance of our lesson). We will **share our thoughts** with one another and look at **what we did well and how we can improve**. To finish, we will have a **debate** in which we discuss as a group some **essay-style questions** and think about how we would go about **writing a response**.

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#### **Preparation required:**

- Complete the homework task from Lesson 2.
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#### **Homework:**

What **different types of masks** are there in *Wonder* and **how are they important?**