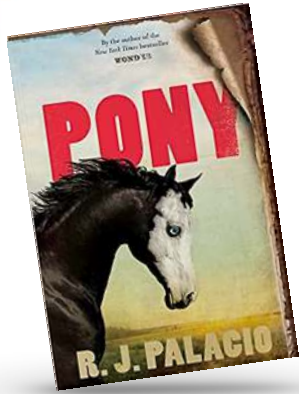


CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



Pony

Written by R.J. Palacio
304 pages / Grades 6-8

An adventure that will pull readers in, inspiring them to be brave and courageous. Twelve-year old Silas suddenly finds himself all alone after three men take his father away by horse, with the exception of a pony and his best friend, Mittenwool, who happens to be a ghost. A haunting, powerful, rich reminder that it is love that ties us together, and that love transcends time.

C

Context

The **western territory**, post Civil War era.

Chemistry - how chemicals react with ink in terms of printing and photography development.

Foreshadowing and figurative language.

Each chapter begins with a quote from a writer or artist of the time period. After reading the chapter and rereading that quote, you have extra insight about the chapters. This is an important exercise in creative thinking.

A

Arts

The **process of photography**, particularly daguerreotypes and the collodion process.

T

Themes

Courage

Bravery

Grit and Determination

Love

Family

C

Create

Find an old photograph, either on the internet, or perhaps even an old (many generations ago) family photo. Notice the different style, and how haunting it likely appears to be. Write the story of that person.

Consider a person in your family who is likely "always with you" though they are no longer alive.

Create a representation to show how you know they are there. It can be real or invented.

Research and share the history of photography.

H

Heart Words

"...maybe life knows where it's going before you do sometimes..."

"...there are people who won't understand it because they can't see that kind of wonder."

"People see the world they believe in."

"...time is like the dappled light inside the Woods. It comes and goes. Hides and shines. And all the while, we're just running through it."

"You can travel thousands of miles, over strange lands, and still never find anything as unknowable as love."

