

CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY

Kaleidoscope

Written by Brian Selznick

208 pages / Grades 5-8

Time, memory, dreams, love, life, death. When you put them all together, sometimes they seem to fit, sometimes they don't. They may appear to be like the shattered pieces of glass in a kaleidoscope. An award-winning author shares a collection of short stories that connect two people together in many different facets. It's up to the reader to figure those connections out, which may require multiple readings to do so.



C

Context

This is an excellent **mentor text** to track critical thinking that readers do. Many short stories that weave together and are connected. Create a chart while reading to record thoughts, figure out connections, and record clues.

Perspective - how do different views ultimately connect?

Personification

Emotion in writing.

How can writing about sadness still make the reader feel uplifted?

A

Arts

The creation of and artistry of **kaleidoscopes**. How does **color, light** and **shadow** work within the fragmented pieces to create art?

T

Themes

Time

Friendship

Memory

Dreams

C

Create

Build a kaleidoscope, considering the amount of pieces, color, and the way light goes through it.

Fragment a story from your past into different perspectives of the people involved.

H

Heart Words

"Is what something looks like all that matters?"

"Most people think time is a machine that needs to be oiled and wound with a key.

They think it's something you control and maintain. But maybe it's more wild than that. Maybe it's bigger and stranger. Maybe time is uncontrollable and endless..."

"If I knew everything, there would be no mysteries....You don't feel wonder at things you know the answers to."

