

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade CCSS Language Arts

### Unit 1: Journeys—from Dark to Light

**Description:** In this unit, students will explore and compare the theme of journeys in multiple works of literature, informational texts, and media. The major work in this unit, *A Wrinkle in Time*, addresses the hypothetical concept of time travel, as well as the personal journey of the protagonist Meg Murray, who transforms from a self-doubting awkward adolescent to a confident young woman who “saves the universe” and herself. Through the study of other texts in the unit, students also explore relevant scientific ideas.



#### Overview of Reading:

- Week 1: “Water” (excerpt from Helen Keller’s autobiography) (PH 120 – 122)  
“Miracles” (poem)
- Week 2: “The Fun They Had” (science fiction short story) (PH 350 – 356)  
“Definition of Science Fiction” (informational)
- Week 3: A Wrinkle in Time
- Week 4: A Wrinkle in Time
- Week 5: A Wrinkle in Time & “How Fast Is the Speed of Light?” (informational)
- Week 6: A Wrinkle in Time & “What’s Going On Here?” from Einstein Revealed (informational)
- Week 7: “Why Fantasy Might Be True” (essay) and Newberry Award Acceptance Speech: “The Expanding Universe” by Madeleine L’Engle

## **Suggested Texts for Extended/Independent Reading:**

### Fiction

Harry Potter series (J. K. Rowling)  
Percy Jackson series (R. Riordan)  
The Chronicles Narnia series (C.S. Lewis)  
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (L. Carroll)  
The True Meaning of Smekday (A. Rex)  
The Mysterious Benedict Society (T.L. Stewart)  
The Magic Half (A. Barrows)  
The White Mountains (J. Christopher)  
Ender's Game (O.S. Card)  
Artemis Fowl (E. Colfer)  
The Merlin Effect (T.A. Barron)  
The Name of the Book is Secret (P. Bosch)  
Tuck Everlasting (N. Babbitt)

### Nonfiction

Mars and the Search for Life (E. Scott)  
Albert Einstein (K. Krull)  
Collision Course: Asteroids and Earth (J. Nelson)