

Approved for use in 6th grade

Summary of the Work:

Miyax, a young Inuit girl, lives with her widowed father, Kapugen. At the age of nine, she moves in with her Aunt Martha, so she could attend school. She then becomes Julie and becomes integrated into her classmates' culture. At 13, she is forced to marry her father's hunting partner. Her father Kapugen had arranged the marriage. Miyax lives a challenging life and chooses to leave her husband (after he hurts her), to find her friend in California. On her journey she learns about wolf-pack culture and relies on the wolves to help her survive. In addition, she faces struggles with hunting, weather, becoming a "pack member" and also begins to remember her roots as an Inuit.

Rationale:

Julie of the Wolves addresses the diverse culture of the Inuit Indian as well as the culture of the wolf pack. It is an in-depth tale of survival and a girl searching for her identity, and discovering it through challenges and where she fits with her new-found wolf family. This novel focuses on how setting and characters (human or otherwise) affect the plot of the story. In addition, the culture of the Inuit is described in depth and allows rich discussion of diverse peoples.

Professional Reviews and/or Critical Essays:

Association for Library Service to Children.; Young Adult Library Services Association; International Reading Association/Children's Book Council; International Reading Association

The March/April 1998 issue of *Emergency Librarian* contains an extensive list of notable titles (including "*Julie of the Wolves*") for children compiled by the Association for Library Service to Children, the Young Adult Services Association of the American Library Association, and the International Reading Association/Children's Book Council, as well as young adult titles coordinated by the International Reading Association. The list includes titles for beginning, intermediate and advanced readers, and books for both the avid and reluctant young adult reader.

* Print resources are available from the library media center and libraries in the district. Contact any library media specialist to view the scholarly sources.

* Scholarly reviews are also available online through Books in Print and Gale. Contact the library media specialist to obtain username and password information to access the subscription database of full-text reviews.

Noted Distinction:

- 1973 Newbery Medal Winner

Readability:

- Lexile Score: 860L
- Readability Level:

Learning Resources Guidelines:

- The novel meets the Learning Resources Guidelines.

Standard Alignment: ([link](#))

Approval:

Submitted to Committee:

Approved for Adoption:

Notes on the Text:

(The best way to evaluate and understand a novel is to personally read the book in its entirety.)

In this novel, there is a scene in which a young disabled man attacks the main character who is his wife. However, it is tastefully done and is not described in graphic detail.

Connection to the Curriculum:

Julie of the Wolves teaches diverse cultures especially that of the Inuit Indian. It focuses on how one utilizes their cultural learning and beliefs to adapt to their environment and face challenges. This is also a focus in our social studies curriculum. It is also addresses literary elements such as: character, plot, setting, and flashback.

Additional Connections:

(AP, Honors, Essential/Applied, Dramas, Films, etc.)

This novel has two sequels *Julie* and *Julie's Wolf Pack*. These books allow further exploration of the information covered in the novel. They also allow the reader to follow Julie's journey.