

Approved for use in 6th grade

Summary of the Work:

Meg Murry and Charles Wallace have lost their father in a tesseract accident. Three mysterious characters assist the children in finding their father. Meg is unhappy at home, and disconnected from her family and classmates. Through the journey to find her father, she faces many frightening characters and overcomes hideous dangers. Meg rescues her father and her brother, and brings everyone safely home. Meg's journey is one of self-discovery as she conquers her fears, learns about acceptance of differences, and acts with courage and love.

Professional Reviews and/or Critical Essays:

In 1963, the novel earned the John Newbery Medal, "for the most distinguished contribution to American literature." In 1964-65, it won the Hans Christian Anderson Runner-up Award, the Sequoyah Award, and the Lewis Carrol Shelf Award. In later years, the novel achieved the Fanfare Award, the Children's *Books Too Good to Miss* Award, the CHLA Touchstones Award, and the Choice Award.

In addition, many sources suggest *A Wrinkle in Time* as superior reading material for young adults. The novel is recommended by the American Library Association in *Notable Children Books 1940-1970* (1977, p. 42) and the Association for Childhood Education International in *Bibliography of Books for Children* (1989, p. 37). The publications *The Elementary School Paperback Collection* (1985, p. 168), *Best Books for Junior High Readers* (1990, p. 116), *Best Books for Children: Preschool through Grade Six* (1991, p. 270), and *Dictionary of American Children's Fiction, 1960-1984: Recent Books of Recognized Merit* (1986, p. 375, 470) also recommend *A Wrinkle in Time*. Furthermore, the novel is listed in *Books Kids Will Sit Still For* (1990, p. 328), *Reading Ladders for Human Relations* (1981, p. 68, 167), *The Elementary School Library* (1992, p. 622), *The Children's Catalog* (1991, p. 1328), *The Senior High Library Catalog* (1987, p. 1307), and *The Junior High School Library Catalog* (1990, p. 785). In addition, the publications *Booklist* (1991, p. 1021, and 1992, p. 1101), *Children's Literature in Education* (1987, pp. 37-39), *The Commonweal* (1962, p. 234), *English Journal* (1991, p. 50, and 1992, p. 87-90), and *New Catholic World* (1973, pp. 89-92) cite this novel as an excellent work of fiction.

* 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.

Notes on the Text:

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

Rationale:

A Wrinkle in Time is a classic coming of age tale. Although L'Engle's novel deals with abstract and futuristic ideas, many of the themes of the novel are issues relevant to young people. Themes include familial love, the battle between good and evil, and coming of age. The novel will engage readers with its swiftly moving plot, young characters, and science fiction genre.

Noted Distinction:

- *A Wrinkle in Time* won the Newberry Medal in 1963.

Readability:

- Lexile Score: 740 L
- Readability Level:

Learning Resources Guidelines:

- The novel meets the Learning Resources Guidelines.

Standard Alignment: ([link](#))

Approval:

Submitted to Committee:

Approved for Adoption:

Connection to the Curriculum:

Additional Connections:

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