

Literacy Tips



Tips for middle school educators on various topics such as grammar, writing, reading, spelling, vocabulary, cooperative learning and more.

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Tip #19a: Movie Trivia

Allow me to veer off from my weekly tip routine. It's not that I don't have a great strategy for you to try. In fact, I do. Tomorrow I will send a follow-up, Tip #19b. It's that movie trivia is consuming me. This week I can't resist giving you some information about a new movie being released. (Thank you for indulging me. You can always stop reading at this point!)

Have you heard that *Holes* by Louis Sachar is in the making? This was brand new to me. Am I the only one who didn't know this? Greg Barta, Hanshew social studies/reading teacher and loyal *Holes* follower, brought this to my attention. Now before you get too disappointed like I did when I heard the news, take a peek at a preview. Yes, many of our all time favorite books have been ruined by the silver screen; however, you will be pleased to learn that Louis Sachar actually wrote the screenplay, too. You see? There is hope! It is being produced by Walt Disney. This should give it a PG rating. Greg surfed the official web site trying to find information and even a preview, but he had no luck. With some dedication and hard work, he was able to find a preview at an entirely different site. Excellent sleuthing, eh? Here it is! I hope these links will work for you.

<http://moviefone.com>

or

<http://www.moviefone.com/multimedia/sneakpeek.adp?movieid=13882&format=qt&rememberformat=1&x=7&y=8>

Preview update

I asked Greg to check the accuracy of my email before sending it out to you, and he just informed me that the official web site now has the preview on it, too. So much for the scoop, eh? You might have more success at <http://www.holes.com>.

Academic Spin

Have students complete Venn diagrams on various books and their movie adaptations. Most students after carefully analyzing the content will come to the same conclusion that we do - the original book is so much better than the movie. Try to read *Holes* to your students before the movie comes out in April!

