

UNIT TEMPLATE

Unit Title: “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman **Designer:** Scott Sochocki

Content Area/Grade Level(s): Honors 10 B **Implementation Time Frame:** 5 Days

Stage 1 – Desired Results	
<p>Established Goals: KID.2.2.5, KID.2.3.9, CS.2.4.7, CS.2.5.8, IKI.2.7.7, CS.3.4.5, CS.3.6.7</p>	
<p>Enduring Understanding(s): Big Ideas</p> <p>Students will understand that...</p> <p>Impressions can haunt people.</p> <p>The Narrator reflects the powerlessness of women of that era.</p> <p>Ineffective medical treatments can be more traumatic to a patient than actual illnesses.</p> <p>If the human mind is deprived of stimuli it can see deeper meaning in ordinary surroundings.</p> <p>It is human nature to demand equality and that is why it should be an essential right in any society.</p>	<p>Essential Question(s):</p> <p>How can a ghost story have no ghost?</p> <p>Why study literature written from a feminist perspective?</p> <p>What insights can be gained from the Narrator’s descent into madness?</p> <p>Can the mundane be a source of fascination?</p> <p>Why is equality important?</p>
<p>(Knowledge)</p> <p>Students will know...</p> <p>The characters: Narrator, John, and Jennie.</p> <p>Genre: Psychological horror.</p> <p>The plot: A wife, who suffers from postpartum psychosis, is practically confined to her bedroom. It is believed that this method will cure her. However, her mental health worsens as her attention turns to the wallpaper in her room and “the woman” who she believes is trapped behind its pattern.</p>	<p>(Skills)</p> <p>Students will be able to...</p> <p>Compare and contrast the society of “The Yellow Wallpaper” to today.</p> <p>Summarize sections of the short story.</p> <p>Develop critical thinking skills by interpreting meaning from the novel.</p>

(Knowledge) continued

The symbolism of the yellow wallpaper:
The domestic trappings of women in a male dominated world.

The themes:

The subservient role of women / wives in the 19th century.

The need for mental stimulation.

(Skills) continued

Identify characters, plot, symbolism, and themes in "The Yellow Wallpaper."

Stage 2 – Assessment Evidence

Performance Task(s):

Psychology Magazine:

Students will prepare a magazine called *Unraveling Wallpaper*.

- An attractive cover will be designed that includes the publication's name and an illustrated picture of the woman hidden in the wallpaper pattern.
- A "make-believe" psychological report of the Narrator will be included. What is wrong with her? Or is there *nothing* wrong with her? Also, what is her prognosis for recovery?
- A "Playlist Cure" will be included that features three songs that are reflective of the main character or her situation. Song titles, artists, and key lyrics are included. Finally, explanations of why these songs should be "prescribed" to the Narrator.

Other Evidence:

Writing Prompts

- How can a ghost story have no ghost?
- Compare and contrast "Something in the Walls" with "The Yellow Wallpaper."
- Describe your overall impressions of both "Something in the Walls" and "The Yellow Wallpaper."

Socratic Circle

- Students will expand their knowledge and understand of the text through an insightful seminar with their classmates.

Quiz

- The final grade for the unit will cover all essential learning related to "The Yellow Wallpaper."

Stage 3 – Learning Plan

Date

Learning Activities:

Day 1 (Friday) W.H.E1., Explanation, Perspective, Self-Knowledge

- PowerPoint on Charlotte Perkins Gilman and “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- Writing Prompt: “How can a ghost story have no ghost?”
- Pass out “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- Homework: read “The Yellow Wallpaper” and prepare for Socratic circle

Day 2 (Monday) W.E1.R.T.O., Explanation, Interpretation, Application, Perspective

- Socratic circle for “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- Recap of “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- Debrief on performance tasks

Day 3 (Thursday) W.H.E1.R.E2.T.O., Interpretation, Application, Perspective

- View *The Twilight Zone* episode “Something in the Walls” from 1989, which is a “modern” variation on “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- Writing Prompts:
 1. Compare and contrast “Something in the Walls” with “The Yellow Wallpaper”
 2. Describe your overall impressions of both “Something in the Walls” and “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- Homework: study for quiz

Day 4 (Friday) W.E1.R.E2.T.O., Application, Empathy, Self-Knowledge

- Quiz
- Q&A on performance tasks
- Spotlight on “Playlist Cure”
- Work day for performance task
- Homework: complete performance task for Monday

Day 5 Monday (Monday) E1.T.O, Interpretation, Application, Self-Knowledge

- Showcase of students’ projects