**Curriculum Guide for Educators and Librarians: The Midnight Broadcast**

***The Haunted Chronicles***

**Age Level: 9-13**

**Subject Areas: Language Arts, Critical Thinking, Social-Emotional Learning**

**Overview**

*The Haunted Chronicles: The Midnight Broadcast* invites readers into a world of mystery, suspense, and supernatural intrigue. Through Hannah’s journey, students explore themes of friendship, curiosity, personal agency, and the importance of trust. This guide supports teachers and librarians in using the book to foster reading comprehension, analytical skills, and empathy in students.

**Learning Objectives**

1. **Reading Comprehension**: Understand and interpret key plot points, character motivations, and story themes.
2. **Critical Thinking**: Analyze suspense techniques and the development of mystery within the story.
3. **Emotional Intelligence**: Reflect on character relationships, empathy, and the impact of peer influence.
4. **Creativity**: Engage in creative activities like writing alternative endings, designing story-inspired artwork, and participating in group discussions.

**Curriculum Outline**

**1. Pre-Reading Activities**

* **Discuss Themes of Mystery and Suspense**: Introduce students to the elements that make a good mystery story. Ask students if they have ever been curious about something mysterious, or if they’ve ever heard an urban legend.
* **Vocabulary Preview**: Provide a list of key vocabulary words such as *static, broadcast, signal,* and *control*. Discuss these terms in the context of suspenseful storytelling.

**2. Reading Comprehension and Analysis**

* **Chapter-by-Chapter Analysis**: After each chapter, review the following:
	+ **Plot**: Summarize key events and their impact on the story.
	+ **Character Development**: Track how Hannah’s relationships with her friends and family change as the story progresses.
	+ **Setting and Mood**: Discuss how setting contributes to the eerie tone.
* **Comprehension Questions**:
	+ What clues reveal that something unusual is happening in Hannah’s town?
	+ How does Hannah react to the broadcast? What does this reveal about her character?
	+ What role does technology play in the story, and how does it affect Hannah?

**3. Class Discussions and Activities**

* **Discussion Prompts**:
	+ How does *The Midnight Broadcast* use suspense to keep readers engaged?
	+ What might the broadcast symbolize for Hannah and her friends?
	+ How does Hannah’s curiosity both help and challenge her?
* **Writing Activities**:
	+ **Alternate Ending**: Ask students to write a different ending to the story. How would they like to see the mystery resolved?
	+ **Personal Reflection**: Have students write about a time they were curious about something unknown. What did they do, and what did they learn?
* **Group Activity - Character Map**: Create a character map to track each character’s role, personality traits, and the changes they undergo.

**4. Social-Emotional Learning**

* **Empathy Exploration**: Discuss how Hannah’s relationships with her friends and family are tested. How does she feel isolated, and how does she find support?
* **Peer Influence Discussion**: Explore how peer influence impacts Hannah’s decisions, particularly her curiosity toward the broadcast.

**5. Creative Projects**

* **Art Project - Design a “Midnight Broadcast” Poster**: Encourage students to create a poster that represents *The Midnight Broadcast*, using colors, themes, and visuals that capture the book’s atmosphere.
* **Mystery Writing Prompt**: Have students write their own short supernatural mystery inspired by *The Midnight Broadcast*.
* **Create a Soundtrack**: Students can curate a playlist of songs that would suit the eerie mood of the book or that represent key moments in the story.

**6. Post-Reading Assessment and Extension**

* **Reflection Essay**: Students write a brief essay on the story's impact on them, touching on themes of curiosity, friendship, and bravery.
* **Book Review**: Have students write a review of *The Midnight Broadcast*, focusing on elements like plot, characters, and suspense.

**Evaluation and Assessment**

* **Participation in Discussions**: Evaluate students on their engagement in class discussions and their ability to articulate thoughts about the story’s themes.
* **Creative Projects**: Grade based on effort, creativity, and alignment with the book’s themes.
* **Written Assignments**: Assess comprehension questions, essays, and personal reflections based on insight and writing quality.

**Additional Resources**

* **Companion Website**: Direct students to the companion website for additional activities, puzzles, and fun facts about the book. It provides downloadable content to enhance their reading experience.
* **Cross-Subject Integration**: Consider integrating elements of *The Midnight Broadcast* into subjects like technology (exploring the science behind radio broadcasts) or history (examining urban legends and folklore).