

***The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo**

English Language Arts, 9th Grade

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Xiomara Batista struggles with the fact that boys objectify her body, her mother tries to control her, and her twin brother is becoming distant from her. She has always written poetry, but it is not until her teacher encourages her to use her writing to express herself and to join the Slam Poetry Club that she starts to feel “heard.” Meanwhile, she struggles with ideas she is learning at her church group, and she has a developing relationship with a boy at school.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM

The following are some, but not all, of the connections to curriculum for this novel.

- **Unit 1: Personal Identity**
 - Essential Question: "How does the process of reading, speaking and writing inform our ability to grasp our own identity?"
- **Unit 2: The Individual and the Community**
 - Essential Question: “How does community influence identity?”

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- RL. 9.3 Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
- RL.9.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.
- RL.9.6 Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature.
- RL.9.10 Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.
- RL.9.12 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
- RI.9.10 Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading.
- RI.9.12 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
- W.9.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings. RL.9.12

