Overview: When it comes to analysis, the reality is you will be analyzing many things, not just literature, after graduation. To help you continue to explore analysis, but still stay true to our AP Literature standpoint, we will be looking at several films in relationship to the children’s literature they were inspired from. Not only will you look at the film from an analytical perspective, you will also consider issues from scholarly articles and create an overarching claim about if film could be consider a piece of literature or not and why.

Focus Points and Questions for the Unit:

* Learning how to “read” books and films:

*What are the features of a film that can be read and analyzed? What are the important film terms needed to be able to truly “read” a film on screen?*

* Fidelity to the Original:

*When and is it possible for a director to keep absolute fidelity to the text? Why can or can’t a director remain true to the original literature when translating it to the big screen? Should films that deviate from the original text still be considered a valid piece of literature?*

* Books and Films as Popular Culture:

*Should films adapted from books be considered worthy literature? How are films influenced by popular culture and social context? Are we seeing a shift in today’s world where films are starting to influence the literature being published?*

**Reflections/Brainstorm:**

Films and Literature We Could Study:

1. ***Jumanji (1981) by Chris Van Allsburg***

Film: Jumanji (1995) directed by Joe Johnston

Scholarly Article: “A Note on Jumanji” by Elizabeth Wilson

1. ***The Little Mermaid (1836) by Hans Christian Anderson***

Film: The Little Mermaid (1989) directed by [Ron Clements](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0166256/?ref_=tt_ov_dr), [John Musker](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0615780/?ref_=tt_ov_dr)

Scholarly Article: “Disney Sub/Version of Andersen’s The Little Mermaid” by Roberta Trites

1. ***Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (1964) by Ronald Dahl***

Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) directed by Mel Stuart

Film: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) directed by Tim Burton

Scholarly Articles: “McLuhan, Youth, and Literature: Part I” By Eleanor Cameron and “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory: A Reply” by Ronald Dahl

1. ***Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone (1997) by J. K. Rowling***

Film: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone (2001) directed by Christopher Columbus

Scholarly Articles from Harry Potter: A Critical Perspective (2003) by Elizabeth E. Heilman

1. ***The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (1990) by Frank Baum***

Film: The Wizard of Oz (1939) directed by Victor Fleming

Scholarly Article: “There is no Place but Home: The Wizard of Oz” by Jerry Griswold