

Let's Talk About ...

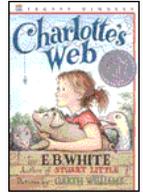
NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY



“Books written for children are intrinsically humanizing to any reader and are no less affecting than books written exclusively for adults. Adults also enjoy reading again books they loved as children.” – Elizabeth R. Baer, for the American Library Association, 1984

Featured book:

Charlotte's Web by E.B. White (1952) is far more than the saga of a pig and her barnyard friends. It "...celebrates life, the seasons, the goodness of the barn, the beauty of the world, and the glory of everything." (E.B. White). Readers will discover the traditional values of the rural 1950's, the joy of a loyal friend, the pain of growing up, the fear of death we all share, and the ineluctable cycle of rebirth (*Source: Theme pamphlet by Elizabeth R. Baer, for American Library Association, 1984*).



Discussion Questions:

 [compiled from Let's Talk About It program scholars]

- In order to enjoy this story one must be able to enter into a realm of imagination and play. How successful were you in making that transition?
- What are the highlights in terms of humor in the story?
- Do you think there is meant to be any profound symbolism in the image of the web itself? What is it?
- When were you first made aware of the life of farm animals? Did you ever care for animals who were in danger of ending up on the dinner table?
- Recent research has found evidence that animals have what might be called "emotions." Is this a statement you agree or disagree with?
- Do you think this story is helpful for children in dealing with death?



Let's Talk About It is a partnership between the Idaho Commission for Libraries and the Idaho Humanities Council with generous support from U.S. Bank.