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Activity One



District 13

When Katniss finds Bonnie and Twill in the woods outside of District 12, they tell her they are on their way to District 13. Later, while watching a Capitol news broadcast, Katniss realizes the reporter isn't really in District 13.

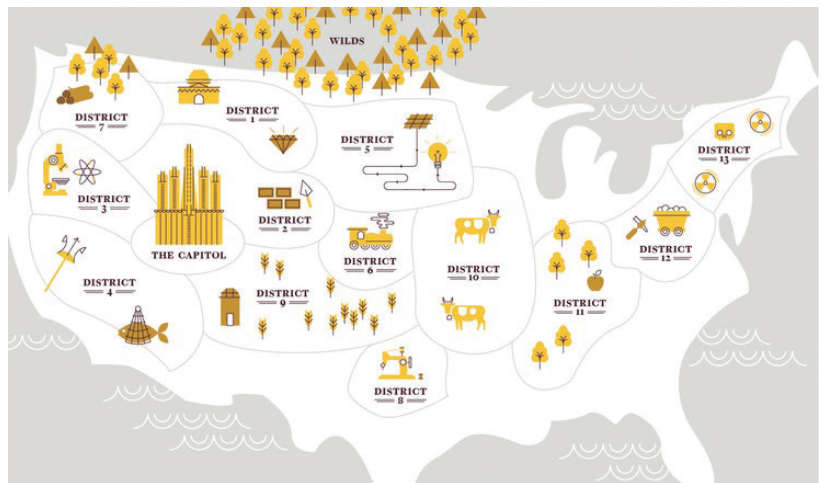
Go back to these sections of the book. Describe every detail you can find about District 13 and its supposed destruction. What was District 13's trade? Do we know? What did District 13 look like? Is there any information about the district's geography?

Now that you've gathered all the information you can, write out a detailed description of the district. Where you don't know enough information, use your imagination to fill in the gaps.

Imagine what customs the people would have. Imagine what meals they would eat, what kind of clothes they would wear, and everything else that makes up a district. Your description should be very detailed and answer any question someone might have about the district. Is there really nothing left of District 13? Does anyone live there? Your description should include information for both before and after the district's destruction. The finished product should be at least two typed, double-spaced pages in length.

Once you've finished your description of the district, envision what it looks like. Use a large piece of poster board to draw a map of the District. Label your map with any notable geographical features such as mountains, forests, lakes or rivers. The district should have at least one of these features. Mark any important buildings or structures and be sure to label streets and paths.

Once you've finished your district, share with the class. Discuss any differences and similarities in the designs.



A map of Panem showing the districts. Image: Mary Rabun/Bustle

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Activity Two



Movie Comparison

In *The Hunger Games*, rather than kill Peeta Mellark, Katniss Everdeen chooses to share poison berries with him, depriving the Capitol of a winner. This forces the Capitol to step in and declare two victors for the first time in the history of the Games. *Catching Fire* is the second book of the Hunger Games series. The story follows Katniss Everdeen as she deals with the fallout of her actions at the end of the 74th Hunger Games.

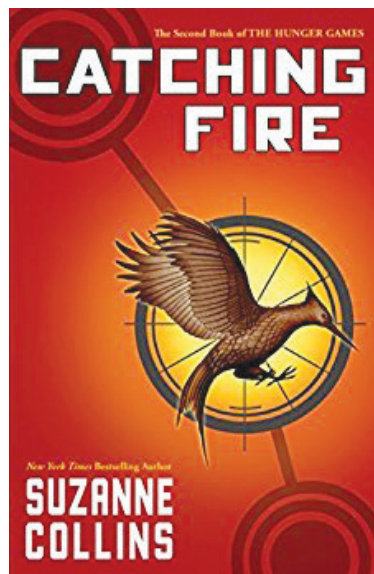
In the book, Katniss meets with President Snow who tells her that her actions in the arena have sparked uprisings. In order to ease tensions, President Snow tells Katniss that she must convince the people of Panem that she did what she did out of love for Peeta, and that it was not an act of rebellion against the Capitol.

Unbeknownst to Katniss, this is Snow's plan to distract her, as she has become a symbol for the rebellion. Ultimately, Katniss' actions lead her and Peeta back into the arena for the 75th Hunger Games, the third Quarter Quell.

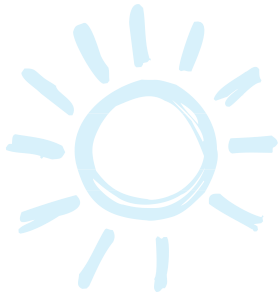
Now, watch the *Catching Fire* film starring Jennifer Lawrence as Katniss, Josh Hutcherson as Peeta, and Liam Hemsworth as Gale. Watch carefully and take notes. Pay especially close attention to important aspects of the film's plot and examine how it unfolds.

What are some of the differences in how events are portrayed in the movie versus how they play out in the book? How closely does the movie follow the book? Are there any characters that aren't included in the movie that appeared in the book? Are there any characters not in the book that play important roles in the movie?

Describe any of these changes and how they influence the story. The books are written in the first person from the perspective of Katniss. The author includes a lot of comment about what Katniss is thinking and feeling. How does this change in the movie? Your finished product should be at least two typed, double-spaced pages in length.



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Activity Three



A Different Perspective

The Hunger Games series is written in the first person from the perspective of Katniss Everdeen. When the terms of the third Quarter Quell are announced, Katniss pauses for a moment while she tries to comprehend what has happened.

She watches as her family explodes into tears immediately. When the reality of her situation—that she will be returning to the arena—finally sinks in, Katniss flees her home and seeks solitude. She deals with the emotions of again facing death in the arena.

Now, since we've only seen Katniss' reaction in any detail, your task will be to examine what a return to the arena will mean for some of the other victors.

Choose one male victor and one female victor. They don't have to be from the same district. Write in the first person from the perspective of your chosen victors. Follow their actions from the hours leading up to the announcement of the Quarter Quell to their arrival in the Capitol for training.

Describe their emotions. How do they feel about returning to the arena? How do their families, friends, or other loved ones feel about them returning to the arena? Explain how these event might have an impact on their actions in the arena.

Your writing should be in a narrative style and you should try to keep the style as close to the book as possible. Include lots of description of settings and characters. Include a brief outline at the beginning of your piece that gives your character's name, appearance, age, home district, and personality traits.

Are your victors more or less likely to seek solitude based on their personality? Will they seek comfort from others when the Quarter Quell is announced?

Your piece should be at least four typed, double-spaced pages.



President Snow announcing the Quarter Quell from The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (2013)

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Activity Four



Debating the Games

A typical book review will see the author summarize their opinion on the story—whether or not they would recommend it—in an opening sentence. The review would then give a brief outline of the story and give examples to illustrate why they felt the way they did about the book. While a book review can help people decide whether they want to read a book or not, it will always be open to debate.

There will always be those who like *Catching Fire* and those who don't. In this activity, you will be examining in depth why you feel the way you do about the story.

Those who enjoyed the book will be on one team. Those who didn't like the book will be on the other. Each team will spend some time brainstorming examples and ideas that represent their stance on the story. These examples should be arguable and include specific points rather than a simple "I didn't like it". For example, one could argue there wasn't enough time spent developing Finnick's character.

You will need to present these detailed points in a way that could convince others that your opinion is the right one. Once you've come up with 10 solid points to back up your group's opinion, as a group elect five representatives. Each team's five representatives will present two points to the class. Your teacher will act as the judge.

The judge's role will be to assign points. Each team will take turns presenting their points. If the judge deems the argument worthy, one point will be awarded. The team with the most points after having presented all of their arguments will be declared the winner.

When the debate is finished, gather as a class and discuss the outcome. Which points were the best? Which points needed work? Why?



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Activity Five

Comparing Experiences



There's a huge difference in Katniss Everdeen's experience in the arena in *The Hunger Games* versus her experience in *Catching Fire*.

In her first turn in the arena, Katniss faces a group of tributes made up of a lot of scared kids like herself. In *Catching Fire*, she must face a field of trained killers. That means preparing in a different way and using knowledge gleaned from her first time in the arena.

In this task, you must examine fully Katniss' time in the arena during the events of *The Hunger Games*. Now, examine in depth her actions in *Catching Fire*.

Your comparison should answer all of the following questions:

- How have her experiences in *The Hunger Games* impacted her actions in *Catching Fire*?
- How are the experiences different?
- How are they the same?
- Did Katniss face greater danger in her first Hunger Games or her second? Why?
- What kind of help did Katniss receive in her first Hunger Games?
- Did she have more or less help in her second Hunger Games?
- Has Katniss changed as a person? Has she grown?
- How has the arena impacted her personality?
- How is Katniss' relationship with Peeta different in the first book versus the second?
- How does Katniss get her weapons? Is it different?

Compare all of these experiences using as much detail as possible.

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Activity Six



Peeta's Journal

Following each Hunger Games, the Capitol sends the winning tribute on a Victory Tour around Panem. The victor stops at each district and speaks with the people there. The tour generally starts in District 12 and moves in descending order to District 1 and then to the Capitol. The victor's district is saved for last.

In *Catching Fire*, both Katniss and Peeta participate in the tour. During their trip, Katniss and Peeta discuss visits to Districts 11, 8, 6, 4, and 3. The book is written from Katniss' perspective. While Peeta is present and participates in each stop, Katniss is the focus.

In this activity, your task will be to consider what Peeta must be feeling after each stop. Imagine Peeta has decided to keep a journal serializing the events of each stop of the Victory Tour, and how he feels about what happens at each stop.

Each journal entry should begin with a title telling the reader which stop of the tour Peeta is writing about. The journal entries for the stops discussed in the book should include details from the story and Peeta's feelings toward them. For stops not included in the book, it will be up to you to use your imagination and fill in the blanks.

Each journal entry should be 100 to 150 words long.

Each journal entry should include:

- A description of the district.
- Any information about the stop from the book.
- Peeta's thoughts and feelings toward events and other characters.
- Discussion of interactions with various characters.
- At least one interesting or funny story about each stop.