

Book Title: *War Games*

Author: Jacqueline Guest

Annotation: Ryan Taber's father is on his first tour of duty in Afghanistan. Ryan can't wait for his father to be gone, and then perhaps he can finally do the things he really wants to do; play *Desert Death*. Ryan finally thinks he can be the person he wants to be rather than the soldier his father wants him to be. Without his father, Ryan quickly slips into a world of deceit. Deceiving friends and family and most of all himself, he must quickly learn that not all is what it seems.

Concepts at a Glance:

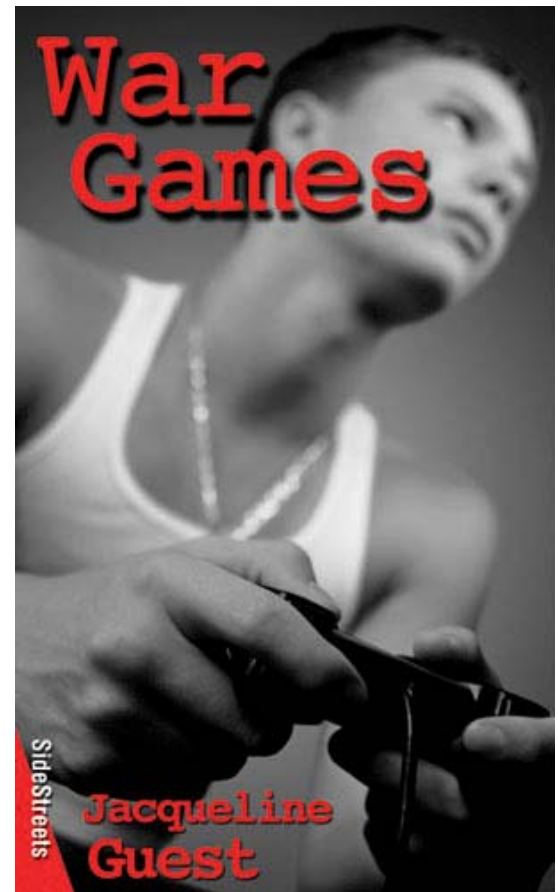
- 🚩 Taliban, Insurgents, war
- 🚩 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- 🚩 Ethics, Democracy

Links to explore:

- Learn more about Canada's role in the war in Afghanistan by exploring: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada's_role_in_the_Afghanistan_War
- Learn more about author Jacqueline Guest at <http://www.jacquelineguest.com/>

Projects, Ideas and Activities:

1. Develop a research plan that will increase your understanding and awareness of Canada's role in the war in Afghanistan. Include information that explains why Canada was involved and what it hopes to achieve. Ensure that your sources are reliable and credible.
2. Re-read chapter 17 where Ryan and Chantel have opposing views on the Afghan war and Canadian soldier's involvement. Prepare an introductory speech that supports bringing Canadian troops home from Afghanistan using reliable and creditable sources. Also prepare an introductory speech that supports keeping our troops in Afghanistan. Be sure to use appropriate language that is respectful to all races, cultures, genders, and abilities.
3. Create a flip perspective booklet on the effects of war on soldiers and their families. You may choose a conflict of your choice to base your book on. Remember, one side will contain the perspective from a soldier and the other will contain the effects it has had on the family.
4. Read another book by author Jacqueline Guest. Compare plot lines, ways she represents First Nations and Métis people, and the setting she chooses.



War Games-Curricular Links

Social Studies Grade 7-9 General Outcomes:

Social Participation as a Democratic Practice

9.S.5 - Demonstrate skills of cooperation, conflict resolution and consensus building:

- ✚ Demonstrate leadership in groups, where appropriate, to achieve consensus and resolve conflicts peacefully and equitably.
- ✚ Demonstrate a positive attitude regarding the needs and perspectives of others.
- ✚ Access, retrieve and share information from electronic sources, such as common files use networks to brainstorm, plan and share ideas with group members.

9.S.6 - Develop age-appropriate behaviour for social involvement as responsible citizens contributing to their community, such as:

- ✚ Develop leadership skills by assuming specific roles and responsibilities in organizations, Research for Deliberative Inquiry.

9.S.7 - Apply the research process:

- ✚ Projects and events within their community.

Communication

9.S.8 - Demonstrate skills of oral, written and visual literacy:

English Language Arts

1.2 Clarify and Extend

- ✚ (8) Exchange ideas and opinions to clarify understanding and to broaden personal perspectives
- ✚ (9) Examine and re-examine ideas, information and experiences from different points of view to find patterns and see relationships.

2.2 Respond to texts

- ✚ (7) Organize interpretations of oral, print and other media texts around two or three key ideas.
- ✚ (8) Make connections between biographical information about authors, illustrators, storytellers and filmmakers and their texts.

5.1 Respect Others and Strengthen Community

- ✚ (8) Use inclusive language and actions that demonstrate respect for people of different races, cultures, genders, ages and abilities.