***Kizzy Ann Stamps***

**Grades 3-5**

By Jeri Watts

**Annotation**

* This story, starts in July, 1963 and ends in July, 1964, tells the story of school integration from the view point of a young black girl, Kizzy Ann, as she writes letters. It opens with correspondence to her new teacher, telling her she doesn’t want to go the integrated school. The teacher writes back, though we don’t see her letters until the last chapter of the book, only Kizzy Ann’s responses to them. Readers see life through Kizzy Ann’s eyes as she meets new people and enjoys her dog, Shag. A thoughtful look at a time gone by, but with current meaning because stories about growing up never grow old.

**Book Talk**

* Kizzy Ann Stamps is an African American child living in the south in the early 1960’s. All she has ever known is segregation. At the end of the school year, Kizzy Ann learns that integration has come to her town and in the fall when she starts back to school, her school that is all black children will be closed and all of the students will be transferred to the *white* school.

Kizzy Ann is very nervous about this change. Her teacher, Miss Anderson, knows the Kizzy Ann loves to write, so she encourages Kizzy Ann to write letters over the summer to her new teacher to help with the transition into the new school. Kizzy Ann thinks this is a good idea and can’t wait to get started.

Read the heart- warming novel Kizzy Ann Stamps by Jeri Watts to find out more about the adventures that Kizzy Ann experiences that summer and fall of 1964, how she gets used to going to school with white teachers and students, and how Shag helps her make new friends.

**Book Trailers:**

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8mE3dRf184>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jGoTckNj1HM>

**Author on the Internet**

* Author’s website: <http://www.jamesriverwriters.org/jeri-watts>
* Author’s Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/public/Jeri-Watts>
* Author on Goodreads: <https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5772008.Jeri_Watts>

**Realia/Display Items**

* Page # 5 (HB)  Item: Letter, envelope and pencil
* Page #51 (HB) Item: Journal
* Page #63 (HB) Item: Books on dogs/Encyclopedia

**Food**

* Page 74 (HB) Hershey kisses for the color of Shag’s eyes
* Page 78 (HB) Corn on the cob
* Page 119 (HB) Mama’s oatmeal cookies
* Page 169 (HB) Half dollar pancakes

**Book Charm**

* Pencil Charm: <http://www.fitnessfinders.net/>



**Background Knowledge**

* Civil Rights Movement: <http://www.ducksters.com/history/civil_rights/>

**Book Club Discussion Questions**

* Is there something about you that makes you feel different, like Kizzy Ann’s scar?
* Would you like to have Kizzy Ann as a friend? Why or why not?
* Kizzy Ann admires her dog, Shag and he is her best friend and hero. Find evidence in the text that supports this statement. .
* “Differences aren’t welcome. Being the same is what matters. People like same. And I’m not the same. I’m me (p. 80).” Why does Kizzy Ann say this?
* “The world can’t change unless we start making it change.” What does this quote mean? Discuss.

**Non-Fiction Companion Titles**

* *The School is Not White!: A True Story of the Civil Rights Movement* by Doreen Rappaport. AR: 4.6
* *Heroes for Civil Rights* by David Adler. Lexile: 970

**What to Read Next**

* *Iggie’s House*by Judy Blume. AR: 3.5, Lexile: 540
* *Lunch Box Dream* by Tony Abbott. AR: 4.9, Lexile: 800
* *A Thousand Never Evers* by Shana Burg. AR: 5.1, Lexile: 830

**Additional Resources**

* [https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Kizzy-Ann-Stamps-Novel-Study-1340592 www.lynchburg.edu/files/.../**kizzy**-jeopardy.doc](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Kizzy-Ann-Stamps-Novel-Study-1340592%20www.lynchburg.edu/files/.../kizzy-jeopardy.doc)
* [*http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/mail-using-literature-promote-85.html*](http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/mail-using-literature-promote-85.html)
* [*https://prezi.com/zgwoyxcblrrg/kizzy-ann-stamps/*](https://prezi.com/zgwoyxcblrrg/kizzy-ann-stamps/)