8B Themes in Of Mice and Men

**Responsibility:** There are multiple examples of responsibility in Of Mice and Men. George has the responsibility of looking after Lennie and making sure he doesn’t get into trouble. Lennie’s makes sure that he keeps himself out of trouble. Crooks tends to the horses. Everybody on the ranch has to do their job to earn money and achieve their dreams. Every character in the story has their own responsibility and they have their own expectations to fulfill.

**Friendship**: The theme of friendship is one of the most prevalent themes in Of Mice and Men. Lennie shows time and time again his kind, loving spirit. When he sees Crooks, an African American man, he only sees a friend despite what society things about people of color. George shows his need of companionship with the bond he shares with Lennie. Although not obvious, Lennie is saving George as much as George is saving Lennie.

**Nature**: Nature is expressed in two ways; human nature and environmental nature. First off, in the beginning of the book they state off with camping in the wild. Also, they go to a ranch that is surrounded by nature. Lennie is also fascinated by soft animals and own his own rabbits one day. In human nature, all the characters have their own traits expressing where they are from, especially Lennie.

**Loneliness:** Loneliness is a big theme in the book Of Mice and Men. Lennie experiences loneliness because of his disability. He has a hard time understanding certain social cues which makes him unlikeable. Another example is Crooks because he is a different race. He lives in a cabin alone, and wants to fit in, but can’t.

**Isolation**: Curley’s wife is lonely because she is the only girl on the farm. Lennie and George are isolated as well because George has been with Lennie his entire life. They are isolated in a society that focuses on the American dream. Lennie and George want more to life, but they are stuck working on the farm.

**Dreams**: In the book Of Mice and Men, the theme dreams is expressed, especially on the ranch. An example of dreams in Of Mice and Men is how George, Lennie, and Candy all have a dream of leaving the ranch to own their own land. In the dream, all the men wanted their own property. In the dream, Lennie wants to have many rabbits that he can take care of and feed. After Lennie and George thought of the plan, Candy wanted to join in on their dream because he had a nice sum of money to help make this dream a reality.

**Violence**: Lennie is a bit violent. He accidentally killed several mice, a puppy and Curley’s wife. Lennie sometimes cannot control himself, which gives him sudden mood changes and he is oblivious to his strength. These things can make the mostly innocent Lennie, a dangerous, and violent person. George needs to constantly look after him to try and stop him from hurting someone.