***To Kill a Mockingbird* Introduction**

**Activity One - Research: Building prior knowledge.**

**Directions:** Search the internet for information. On notebook paper, write full and complete answers to the following questions. Make sure to tell where you got your information from in parentheses after your response. Wikipedia is NOT a valid source!

1. What are the characteristics of a mockingbird? (i.e. What does it look like and what does it do?)
2. Which is another name for “hydrophobia” or “mad dog disease”? What are some of the symptoms of this disease (in animals)?
3. Who is Atticus Finch? Who is Scout Finch?
4. Find three interesting things about Harper Lee (the author).
5. In 1929, the stock market (economic welfare) of the U.S. crashed. What did the crash of the stock market result in for most people?
6. What was it like for people in the 1930s during the Great Depression?
7. What are the Jim Crow laws?
8. Summarize the Scottsboro Boys Trial.
9. Discuss a film that shows life during the time period these questions are about? (Great Depression, Civil Rights Movement, etc.)
10. Why is there controversy surrounding Harper Lee’s novel that was released this summer?