## A Wrinkle in Time Madeleine L'Engle



- 1. A good word to know when we are talking about books is genre. A genre is a particular type, or style, of book. El Deafo was an autobiography: a book written by someone about their own life. Julie of the Wolves was in the fiction genre: a story created by the author's imagination. Coraline could be placed in the horror genre. A Wrinkle in Time fits in the genre of science fiction: a story created by the author's imagination based around space or time travel, or predicting technology and life in the future, or on other planets. Have you read any other science fiction stories?
- 2. All the books we have read before this one have been set on Earth, even though they have been in different countries and cultures. A Wrinkle in Time is set on other planets, even in a different galaxy. Do you think it's easier to write about a setting you know, or somewhere you have only imagined? Why?
- 3. Who was your favourite character in the book? How would you describe them? Why did you like them?
- 4. The beasts cannot see, and find some things on Earth hard to understand. They don't think of things in terms of how they look, instead they think of them as what they are. Aunt Beast tells Meg: Don't try to use words... You are just fighting yourself and me. Think about what they **are**. This look doesn't help us at all.

How would you describe the following to one of the beasts – remember not to talk about how they look, but what their essence is: your mum, a cat, an iPad, chocolate biscuits, dancing.

- 5. Would you like to live on Camazotz? Imagine it was your job to persuade someone to give in to IT and live on Camazotz, what would you say to try to convince them?
- 6. What do you think is (are) the main theme(s) of the book. (Remember that theme means the message that the book shares with us not the storyline and what happens in the book, but the meaning, or moral, or 'big idea' of the story.)
- 7. One theme of the book is *conflict*. A conflict is a disagreement, a clash, a contrast, or an argument. What examples of conflict do we read about in the book?
- 8. Do you think there is life on other planets in the universe? What kind of creatures and worlds do you think there could be?