

JMA 6th Grade Summer Reading Project -- Summer 2018
J.M. Alexander Middle School
IB World School

This summer, every 6th grade scholar at J.M. Alexander Middle School will explore the two IB learner profiles that are the foundation of our JMA guiding principles: CARING and PRINCIPLED. This exploration will take place through the **JMA School-Wide Sixth Grade Summer Reading Project**. See below for more details!

How to complete your JMA 6th Grade Summer Reading Project in FIVE easy steps!

STEP ONE: Pick a book!

Pick a book to read! Make sure it is a book that you have not read before. It can be any genre (fiction or nonfiction) as long as it has CHARACTERS. Make sure it is a book with a variety of interesting characters (real people or fictional people).

STEP TWO: Read your book and look for caring and principled characters!

Read your book! As you read your book, be on the lookout for characters who are good examples of what it means to be **CARING** and **PRINCIPLED**.

A **caring** person is someone who:

- Shows empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others.
- Has a personal commitment to service.
- Makes a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

A **principled** person is someone who:

- Acts with integrity and honesty
- Has a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for others
- Takes responsibility for their own actions

STEP THREE: Annotate your book! (You can do this WHILE reading)

Mark those places in your book where you notice characters being **CARING** and **PRINCIPLED**. If the book belongs to you, you can highlight, underline or star examples of being **caring** and **principled**. If you DON'T own your book, (or you just don't like writing in your books) use post-its or bookmarks.

STEP FOUR: Complete the attached set of reading response questions!

These questions will help you think in more depth about what it means to be caring and principled and how the characters in your book SHOWED these qualities.

STEP FIVE: Bring your annotated book and your completed reading questions to school!

Bring your annotated book and your completed questions to school on **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th**. You will need them in your **English Language Arts class**. Your class will use your book and your reading responses as part of a whole-class exploration of what it means to be **caring** and **principled**.

You must bring your book and your completed questions to school no later than Friday, September 7th. It will count as a grade in your ELA class.

- 1) A **caring** person shows empathy for others. Empathy is "the ability to understand and share the feelings of another."

- a) Describe a moment in the book when one of the caring characters showed empathy.
 - b) Why do you think this is an example of empathy?
- 2) A **caring** person also has compassion, which means to have a strong feeling of sympathy and sadness for the suffering of others, along with a strong desire to help them.
- a) Describe a moment in the book when one of the caring characters showed compassion.
 - b) Why do you think this is an example of compassion?
- 3) A **caring** person makes a positive difference in the life of others. Describe a moment in the book when one of the caring characters in the book made a positive difference in the life of others.
- 4) A **principled** person is someone who acts with integrity and honesty, doing the right thing and being truthful.
- a) Describe a moment in the book when one of the principled characters acted with integrity and/or honesty.
 - b) Why do you think this is an example of acting with integrity and honesty?
- 5) A **principled** person also has strong sense of fairness, justice, and respect for others.
- a) Describe a moment in the book when one of the principled characters demonstrated a sense of fairness, justice and respect for others.
 - b) Why do you think this is an example of acting with fairness, justice and respect?
- 6) A **principled** person **takes responsibility for their actions** and the **consequences** of those actions. Describe a moment in the book when a principled character stepped up and **took responsibility** for his/her actions.
- 7) In every story, people must face difficult challenges, choices and conflicts. Being **caring** and **principled** often helps people work through these challenges.
- a) Describe a moment in the book when a character faced a challenge, choice or conflict by being **caring** or **principled**.
 - b) How did being **caring** or **principled** help the character face the difficult challenge, choice or conflict?
- 8) Which character in your book is the best example of a **caring** person? Write a paragraph about this character, explaining WHY he/she is the best example of being **caring**. Use at least two examples from the book in your paragraph.
- 9) Which character in your book is the best example of a **principled** person? Write a paragraph about this character, explaining WHY he/she is the best example of being **principled**. Use at least two examples from the book in your paragraph.
- 10) Every book has memorable sentences that stand out in our minds. In this book, find two memorable sentences or quotes that will stick with you. One line should relate to being **caring**. One line should relate to being **principled**. Be sure to include the page numbers!

Scholars should bring their annotated books and completed questions to their ELA class on Friday, 9/7.