

**JMA 7th Grade Summer Reading Project -- Summer 2018**  
**J.M. Alexander Middle School**  
**IB World School**

This summer, every 7th grade scholar at J.M. Alexander Middle School will explore what it means to TAKE ACTION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE. This exploration will take place through the **JMA School-Wide Seventh Grade Summer Reading Project**. See below for more details!

***How to complete your JMA 7th Grade Summer Reading Project in FIVE easy steps!***

***STEP ONE: Pick a novel dealing with Social Justice.***

Pick a book to read that relates to social justice! Make sure it is a book that you have not read before. It can be any genre (fiction or nonfiction) as long as it deals with changes in social justice. If you get stuck, check the list found on the JMA website under Summer Reading Projects-> seventh grade

***STEP TWO: Read your book and look for the impact social justice had on the characters.***

Read your book! As you read your book, be on the lookout for characters the issue of social change. Think about how the character(s) were wronged and the actions they took to make the needed changes for the betterment of the people in the story.

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

Mark those places in your book where you notice characters being **CARING, PRINCIPLED**, and **Risk-Takers**. 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!***

You can handwrite or type your responses.

***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, principled, and risk takers**.

***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.***

Reading Response Questions

- 1) Social justice is a concept of fair and just relations between the individual and society.

- a) Describe the unjust situation found in your book and explain how it impacted the main character(s).
  - b) What events led to the unjust situation?
- 2) 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?
- 3) Characters dealing with issues of social injustice must be risk-takers to make a change. A risk-taker approaches uncertainty with forethought and determination as they are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.
  - a) Describe a moment in the book when one of the characters was a risk-taker.
  - b) Why do you think this is an example of being a risk-taker?
- 4) 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.
- 5) When facing social justice issues, people must consider their options before making the important decisions about what should be done.
  - a) What options did the character(s) consider in your novel?
  - b) What was their final decision to push for social change?
  - c) What would you have done if you found yourself in a similar situation?
- 6) 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?
- 7) A **principled** person also has strong sense of fairness, justice, and respect for others.
  - a) Describe what the character(s) were fighting for in regards to fairness and justice.
  - b) Why was this important?
  - c) Did they succeed in gaining fairness, justice, and respect for others? If not, how could they? If so, how did they?
- 8) **Caring, principled**, and being **risk-takers** are just a few of the IB learner profile traits. Describe how the main character emulated each of these traits. Make sure you reference the text and provide at least two examples for each trait.
- 9) What did you learn about social justice from your reading and analysis of this book? How might what you learned impact your actions in your own life?

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