

## Guiding Questions for Summer Reading using the Character and Virtue words for 2020-2021

*Consider these questions as you are reading your book. Having answers to them, with quotations from the book (cite the page number) as supporting evidence will be very helpful when it is time to discuss and assess your reading.*

### Resilience: We respond to setbacks with renewed determination.

Identify at least two instances where a character demonstrates resilience.

- In which situations does a character in the novel show resilience?
- In what ways is resilience an important virtue in the story?
- How would the story have changed if that character lacked resilience?

Consider also:

Are there instances in the story where a character lacks resilience?

- Why did they make that choice?
- What were the effects of that choice?
- How could a show of resilience have changed the story?

### Conscientiousness: We value hard work and are deliberate in what we do.

Identify at least two instances where a character shows conscientiousness.

- How does the character show a desire to be conscientious?
- To what goal is the character striving as they demonstrate conscientiousness?

Consider also:

Are there instances in the story where the character does not remain conscientious?

- How did the character not choose to do what was right?
- How did this affect the story?
- If the character had been more diligent and conscientious, how would the story have changed?

### Kindness: We are generous and considerate of others.

Identify at least two instances where a character shows kindness.

- What is the situation where a character chooses to show kindness?
- How does the character demonstrate kindness?
- How did the character's kindness impact others?

Consider also:

Are there instances where a character lacks kindness or is unkind?

- What drove a character to be unkind?
- What effect did this choice have?
- How might the story have been different if a character had been kind at that moment?

**Integrity: We do the right thing even when no one is watching.**

Identify at least two instances where a character shows integrity.

- How does a character act with integrity?
- What is the result of their action?
- In what way is that integrity tested in the story?

Consider also:

How might the story have changed if a character acted without integrity?

- What is an instance where a character acts without integrity?
- What is the result of this action?
- In your opinion, why does the choice to act with integrity matter to the overall story?

## These are General Guiding Questions that can be used to help you understand any book.

1. What kind of **world** does the author build in the story (e.g. time period, location, culture)? How does that world impact the plot? Character development? Conflicts? Theme?
2. Choose **one character who seemed particularly compelling** in the story. How does the author describe him or her? Think of direct physical description (e.g. “She had short brown hair”) as well as indirect description--the way he/she reacts to conflict, for example, or the way he/she interacts with other characters.
3. What are some of the **key conflicts** in your book? Are those conflicts ever resolved? If so--how? If not, why not? How might you have solved those particular conflicts if you lived in the world of the book, keeping in mind any constraints placed on the characters from the world which they inhabit?
4. Think about **beginnings and endings**. How did the author open this particular book, and what kind of mood or tone did that beginning establish? Did you like the way it opened? Why or why not? Did you feel satisfied by the way things were resolved at the end? Why or why not? How might you have ended the book differently?
5. If you were to choose **a single quote that represents this book** for someone who has never read it, what would that quote be and why? What does it show about this book that you feel represents it well? (If you really can't just choose one, feel free to find a few interrelated quotes.)