

MSCD Preparatory Curriculum



May 2020

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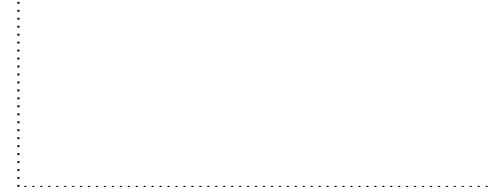
Dear Parent/Guardian:

Maus is a graphic novel written and illustrated by Art Spiegelman. The novel traces the journey of Vladek Spiegelman, his father and a Holocaust survivor. Through a series of interviews by his son Art, Vladek recalls his journey of survival. Throughout the novel, Art consistently goes back and forth between past and present while conducting interviews with his father. His illustrations show humans as animals: the Jews as mice, the Nazis as cats, and the Poles as pigs. Ultimately, the stories allow Art to create an illustrated and in-depth exploration of an individual's pursuit to survive in excruciating conditions.

Essential Questions:

- Why does the author illustrate humans as animals?
- What does it mean to be a survivor? Is being alive enough? Why?
- How does learning about our past help us move forward?

Best wishes - 751M's Curriculum Committee



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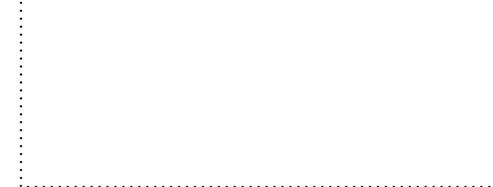
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