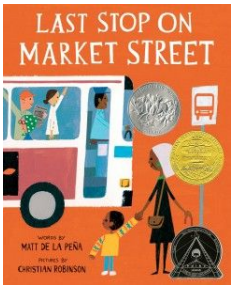


Summer Reading 2019

Penn Alexander School
(Incoming 1st- 3rd Graders)

Incoming 1st- 3rd Grade Families-

This summer Penn Alexander students entering 1st through 3rd grade will be given **The Last Stop on Market Street**, by Matt de la Peña. Below you will find a summary of the story, and questions you can use with your child before, during, and after reading the text. We encourage you to spend time reading the book with your child this summer, and discussing its many beautiful themes. In addition to the selected text, we highly encourage your child to read each day throughout the summer!



Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn't he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty—and fun—in their routine and the world around them.

BEFORE READING

Where do you think the boy and woman are going? Where do you think this story takes place? What clues from the cover did you use?

DURING THE STORY

(p. 2) I wonder what the author meant by "The outside air smelled like freedom". What do you think?

(p. 12) Where do you think Nana and CJ are going? Why was CJ feeling sorry for himself?

(p. 16) Did you notice that CJ is smiling? Do you have any idea why?

(p. 22) I wonder how Nana was able to find so much beauty around the city?

(p. 28) How is everyone feeling in this picture and why?

AFTER READING

Why do you think that CJ and Nana went to Market Street after church every week?

How did this story make you feel?

Are there people you know or have seen that might need this kind of help?

What do people mean when they talk about "deeper beauty" or "inner beauty"? What are some examples from the book? What are some examples from your life?

How do you know when to be grateful for what you do have and when to speak up when something isn't fair?

Optional:

A theme from this book is the finding of beauty in unexpected places, which CJ notices in Nana's finding "beautiful where he never even thought to look." Can you find a place in West Philadelphia that is unexpectedly "beautiful", take a picture of this place, and send it to SummerReadingPAS@gmail.com. We will be creating a bulletin board of these places in September. Please enclose the location of the place for us to share with the community.

Utube Link to hear **The Last Stop on Market Street** :<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ku42RkHHLpw>