



Dear Parents/Guardians,

According to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, study of the events of the Holocaust addresses one of the central mandates of education in the United States, which is to examine what it means to be a responsible citizen. The Holocaust Trunk of Tolerance Project provides textual, visual, audio, and digital materials that when combined ensure students gain positive character development and a deeper understanding of the importance of good citizenship.

These trunks and materials supplement the curriculum already in place, assist educators in achieving the state's Common Core Standards of Excellence, and fulfill the recent directive from the MA Dept. of Education on Holocaust education.

The materials, lessons, and activities emphasize the importance of looking beyond the facts and statistics to examine personal testimonies and give this era of history a voice with significance outside the classroom.

Through teaching and studying the Holocaust as a class, we will examine the historical context as well as its moral and social importance in our society. This subject raises questions of justice and explores concepts of prejudice, discrimination, and racism.

By learning the lessons of the Holocaust, students acquire an improved understanding of the basic civil rights in a democracy. Students will also better understand their role in their local community, nation, and international community.

NOTE: Your child will *not* be exposed to graphic images or concepts beyond the student's maturity. Your child's classroom will provide a safe and positive setting.

In the next few weeks your child will be reading:

by _____

Please indicate that your child has permission to read this book and/or use these resources:

Signature _____ Date _____

Adapted from Georgia Trunk Project Teacher's Study Guide