

Summer Vamp
Discussion Guide
Grades 3 - 7

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Brainstorm ideas to do over the summer. What can you do? Where can you go? What can you play?

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- Why do you think Maya thought after watching Midnight? How do you think she felt?
- How do you think Maya feels after making her garlic parmesan pasta? Why do you think this activity was important to her?
- How did Maya react to the news her father told her? What happened as a result?
- What is Maya excited for at culinary camp? What motivates her excitement?
- What happened when Maya got on the camp bus? How do her actions and feelings set the stage for her experience at camp?
- How does Maya feel settling into her bunk? What do her reactions say about her?
- What do Maya and Nico plan to do at camp? What happens when they try to carry out their plan?
- Why do you think Maya didn't say what she was thinking to Alex? What might have held her back?
- Why do you think Alex keeps talking for Maya? How does this affect their relationship?
- Describe what happened during capture the bat. How did Maya's actions and decisions stand out?
- How did Maya use her culinary knowledge? What did she discover as a result?
- What happened when Alex stood up for Maya? Why was this moment important?
- Why do you think Maya changed her mind? What events or realizations led to her growth?
- How did Alex realize Maya was human? What clues or moments led to this discovery?
- How did Maya's bunkmates react to her being human? Why do you think they responded the way they did?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- What do you think Maya learned about herself through her camp experience?
- Utilize RIF's Influences on a Character to determine the influences on Maya.
- **Writing Activity:** If you were in Maya's position, what would you have done differently? Why?
- **Character Analysis task:** Maya was excited about going to culinary camp. How did Maya's culinary skills shine at camp?

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.