

Jaspa's Journey: The Great Migration

by Rich Meyrick

Suggested Book Club Questions

Questions for any *Jaspa's Journey* book

Which aspects of the book worked and which didn't?

The author's note reveals that the environments, animals and history described in the book are real, for the most part. Does this semi-educational aspect strengthen the book's appeal, or distract the reader from the story?

Jaspa's Journey is meant to be a very visual series. Does this come across? Does the narrative conjure up images in your mind's eye?

If Jaspa and the others were human, what ages would they be?

Can you relate personally to the main Ses characters, the problems they face and the decisions they make?

What sort of potential future does the *Jaspa's Journey* series have in schools? How could the books best be utilised?

Jaspa's Journey is an series of adventure novels for Kids 8 to 80. Do you agree?

Questions specific to *The Great Migration*

Much to the author's surprise, the original publisher's report noted that *Jaspa's Journey* "portrays a strong sense of family values". Do you agree? What type of family values come across?

Bisckits is shocked to discover the *Nomads* blame (to some degree) the *Crocodilese*s for what their animal counterparts do to the wildebeest herds at the Grumeti (and Mara) River crossings. Yet at the same time, Bisckits himself harbours his own prejudices against *Vultureses* because of his distaste for vultures. Discuss this apparent contradiction.

Mentoring is another theme unintentionally woven into the story. Some characters are both mentor and mentored, depending with whom they are interacting. Discuss.

As an extension of the previous question, after reading *The Great Migration* as an adult, would you choose to read the subsequent *Jaspa's Journey* books?