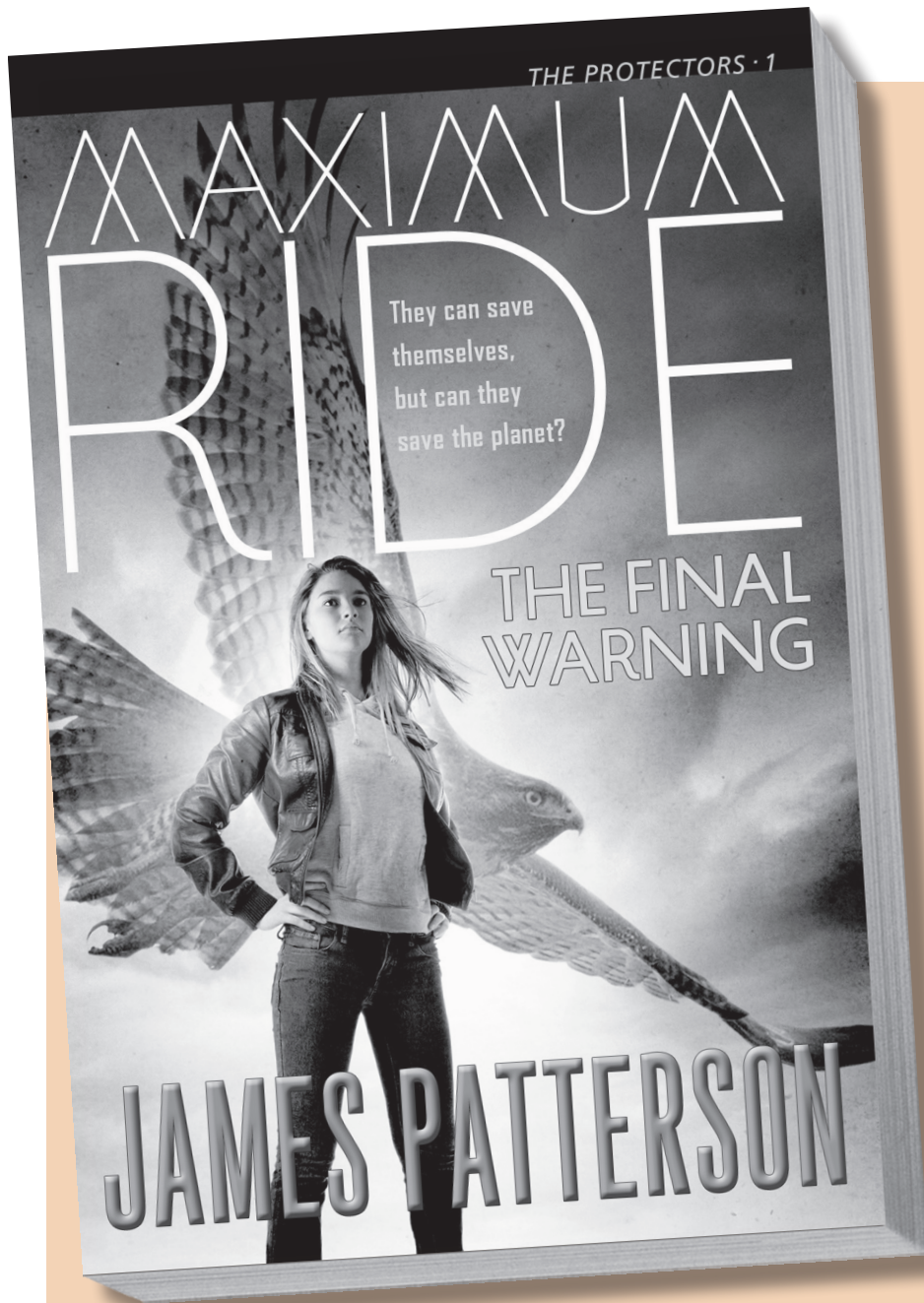


MAXIMUM RIDE

THE FINAL WARNING



FROM THE #1
INTERNATIONAL
BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Thematic connections

- ❖ Responsibility
- ❖ Family
- ❖ Loyalty

Ages 10 and Up

BY
JAMES
PATTERSON

MAXIMUM RIDE: THE FINAL WARNING

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR *MAXIMUM RIDE: THE FINAL WARNING*

1. When the flock meets with the government officials to determine their future, Max is uncomfortable with the way the officials answer her questions and their condescending treatment of members of the flock. How does Max respond to their offer? What role do Jeb and Dr. Martinez play in the decision she makes?
2. Each member of the flock seems to be spontaneously mutating and gaining a new ability. How are their new abilities affecting the manner in which the flock operates?
3. Why do Fang and Max trust Dr. Martinez, but not Jeb? Why does Max continue to trust the voice in her head?
4. Fang and Max risk their lives to save Sue Ann. Based on what you know about the characters of Max and Fang, would they have saved Sue Ann if they had known that she turned them over to the Uber-Director?
5. How does Max attempt to keep the flock from becoming bitter and cynical? Are her attempts successful with all members of the flock? Why or why not?
6. Why does the flock come to share the scientists' belief about global warming? How does the flock show its support?
7. Max and her flock are given the chance to attend a special school for mutant children where they will be safe, warm, and well-fed, but when Max hears the voice in her head giving coordinates for another mission, she tells the flock to get ready to go. Why is the flock so willing to go with Max and relinquish the safety they all so desire?



MAXIMUM RIDE: THE FINAL WARNING

CROSS CURRICULUM ACTIVITIES

Social Studies

The newspapers report trends in global warming; books and news magazines carry in-depth analysis of the phenomenon; and even the mass media, such as the Oscar award-winning film, *An Inconvenient Truth*, focuses the public's attention on the far-reaching ramifications of global warming.

Ask students to find a partner and together find one of the above types of presentations on global warming to view or read. Then, ask students to make a multi-media presentation to the class conveying the pertinent facts and using a variety of media/tools to aptly communicate the information the team has gathered. Have students collectively establish a permanent display of their maps in the classroom.

Geography

In Chapter 25 of *The Final Warning*, the flock boards a private jet for an unknown destination. They do know they have joined a group of scientists as part of a rescue mission, but they do not know who or what they will rescue. Have students work in small groups to draw a map tracing the flock's steps in Parts II and III, including their mode of transportation. At each place the flock makes a major move, have the students write a brief paragraph about the country or the place to which they have traveled. Ask students to use a variety of artistic mediums as they create their maps and to display their maps in the classroom.

Science

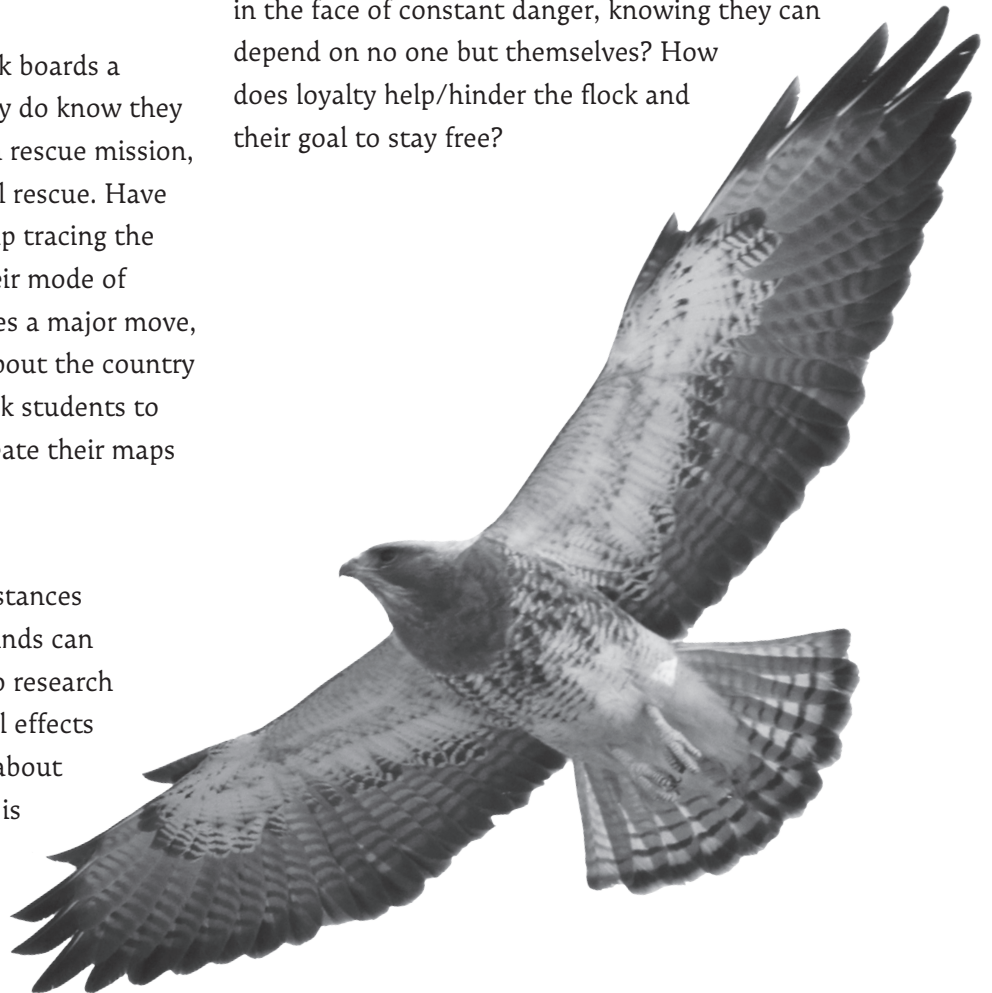
Pollution of the ocean from radioactive substances threatens the earth beyond anything our minds can conceive. In groups of three, ask students to research radioactive pollution: what are the potential effects on ocean life, what is currently being done about the dumping of radioactive waste, and how is it being monitored and/or policed? Each person in the group should take one of the topics and report on that topic to the group. Then the group should plan a presentation to the class using visual aids to convey the information they have gathered.

Thematic Connections

Responsibility — Max's sense of responsibility to take care of the flock and to keep them safe overwhelms her at times. How does the flock share in this responsibility? How does Max extend this sense of responsibility to those outside the flock?

Family — The members of the flock view themselves as a family—even though they are not related by blood. Why are their bonds so strong? What makes them a family? Why are Max's feelings for Jeb so conflicted?

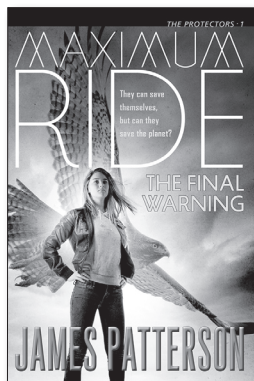
Loyalty — The flock is betrayed throughout the series by almost everyone they trust—Jeb, Ari, Anne, Sue Ann—just to name a few. How does the flock continue to persevere in the face of constant danger, knowing they can depend on no one but themselves? How does loyalty help/hinder the flock and their goal to stay free?



MAXIMUM RIDE: THE FINAL WARNING

about the book

James Patterson's young adult masterpiece of non-stop action, mystery, and suspense soared to the top of the bestseller lists and created an explosion of new fans for this beloved, multimillion-selling author.



Maximum Ride: The Final Warning

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AR 5 F&P X

In one of the world's most extreme environments—the freezing South Pole—Max and the flock are in serious trouble. The grotesque Uber-Director has put a price on their heads, and a worldwide auction for the genetically modified kids is about to begin....

Oblivious to the Uber-Director's evil plans, the flock is on a special government mission to save the Earth. But in a brutal environment like the South Pole, being able to fly isn't always an option for escaping from your worst nightmares...

What Teachers Are Saying...

"I am excited as a teacher to see a student get so into a book and will for sure keep copies in my classroom for other reluctant readers. THANK YOU James Patterson for doing what you do."

—Karie, Teacher

"The teachers read *Maximum Ride* again today, and the students begged them not to stop when the time was up!"

—Terri S., Teacher

"This book deals with some heavy themes—the idea of social responsibility, activism, the importance of family, and the empowering idea that one person can change (save) the world."

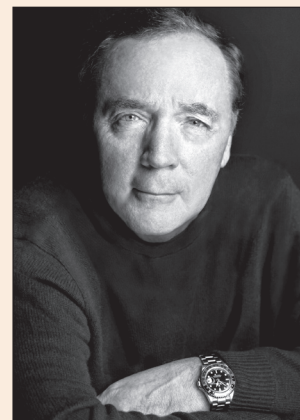
—Brooke Y., Librarian

"Unbelievable...My kids and I can't wait for #3.

Thanks for penning such thought-provoking, action-packed literary experiences."

—Jill, Teacher

about the author



The subject of a recent *Time* magazine feature called, "The Man Who Can't Miss," James Patterson is the bestselling author of the past year, bar none, with more than 12 million books sold in North America alone. In total, James' books have sold an estimated 130 million copies worldwide. He is the first author to have #1 new titles simultaneously on the *New York Times* adult and children's lists and is the only author to have five new hardcover novels debut at #1 on the list in one year—a record-breaking feat he accomplished twice—in 2005 and 2006.



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Educator Guide Prepared by Susan Geye