

New Kid

Author: Jerry Craft

NC Kids Digital Library [ebook](#) & [audiobook](#) available

Related Books:

Class Act by Jerry Craft

Smile by Raina Telgemeier

Unidentified Suburban Object by Mike Jung

Pie in the Sky by Remy Lai

A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Ramee

Real Friends by Shannon Hale

It All Comes Down to This by Karen English

Blended by Sharon M Draper

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

The Crossover (graphic novel) by Kwame Alexander and illustrated by Dawud Anyabwile

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Tight by Terrey Maldonado

Websites:

<https://jerrycraft.com/>

Book Trailer:

[New Kid by Jerry Craft](#)

[New Kid by Jerry Craft](#)

[New Kid with Jerry Craft](#)

[Jerry Craft on New Kid and Class Act](#)

Book Talk:

[Avon Free Public Library New Kid Book Talk](#)

Discussion Questions:

1. When Jordan returns home on the first day of school, his friend Kirk is waiting for him, but things between the two of them get uncomfortable when Kirk sees Liam; why do you think that happens? Later, Jordan tells his dad it was “kinda weird” (p. 50). What do you think Jordan is really feeling?
2. “Jordan’s Tips for Taking the Bus” (pp. 56-57) show Jordan changing his appearance over the course of his ride to school. Discuss the concept of code switching. What do you notice in each frame? What is different about his clothing, body language, and the people around him? What do you think Jordan gains by code switching in this way? Can you think of a time where you felt you needed to code switch?

3. It takes a lot of courage for Jordan to stand up and say what really happened during the altercation between Drew and Andy in the cafeteria (Chapter 12). Why do you think Jordan saying something made others step up to report the truth, too?
4. When Ms. Rawle reads Jordan's sketchbook she fails to understand how she is making her African American students feel unseen (Chapter 13). Why do you think she gets defensive?
5. On Jordan's last day of school, his parents comment on how different he looks, and try to figure out exactly what's different, "Whatever it is, you look like a new kid" (p. 245). Jordan doesn't see it at first, but in what ways do you think Jordan has grown and changed through the school year? In what ways does he stay the same?

Activities:

- [Meet Jerry Craft](#)
- <https://jerrycraft.com/wp-content/uploads/TG-9780062691200.pdf>
- *New Kid* is a graphic novel. A graphic novel is composed using both text and images within story panels. Draft your own graphic tale using comic panels.