

Sydney Ward

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Book Festival Commentary

For my book festival project, I chose to create a soundtrack for the book *New Kid* written by Jerry Craft. I believed that my soundtrack connected with *New Kid* because I recognized that 12 chapters provided sufficient information to pair the theme with a song. I was inspired to add a picture of Jordan falling through the star because I felt like this story chased Jordan through his new school. As a reader, I watched Jordan journey through his new school and eventually find his place. I felt the picture I used could portray the character as falling into place within his community.

The entire project took me around a day to complete. I decided to dedicate my entire day to complete it when I realized that I really enjoy designing and choosing songs. I had to really connect into different mindsets to think of what songs would be the most appropriate for a given chapter. I wanted to create a cover for the CD because I imagined it would be hard to understand what I am creating a soundtrack for. I believed that a picture was absolutely necessary for understanding what I had in mind and what I wanted to portray on paper.

I want my audience to read the book and possibly listen to music at the same time. As the chapters are short, I feel the song can be just enough time to get through the chapters. Overall, this project opened my eyes to many creative lenses and I am so happy with the outcome!