

# MIDDLEWORLD KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Plot:

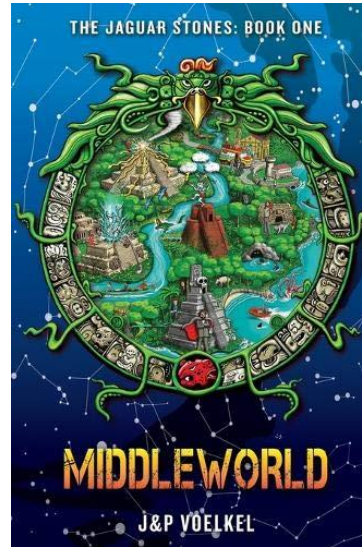
Fourteen-year-old Max Murphy, video-gamer extraordinaire, is furious when his archaeologist parents cancel the family vacation to go on a dig in Central America. But things go from bad to worse when Max is summoned to join them, only to discover that his parents have vanished.

### Themes:

- ~ Parental authority ~ Revenge ~
- ~ Good over evil ~ Resilience ~ Hope ~
- ~ Impact of tourism ~
- ~ Conservation and the impact of deforestation ~

### Setting:

San Xavier City, Uncle Ted's House, Puerto Muerto, jungle, rainforest, Black Pyramid



## CHARACTERS

Lord 6-Dog	Ahaw Wak Ok (uh-how-walk-oak) Ancient Maya King
Max	Massimo Francis Sylvanus Murphy – 14 years-old, only child, video gamer.
Dad	Frank Murphy – famous archaeologist, cares more for the past than Max.
Mum	Carla Murphy – famous archaeologist, cares more for the past than Max.
Oscar Poot	Head of the Maya Foundation, worked with Frank and Carla.
Uncle Ted	Max's Uncle – a banana exporter, rude, bossy and doesn't want Max around.
Raul	Uncle Ted's Butler, obedient and attentive worker.
Lola	Ix Sak Lol (each-sock-loll) Maya girl who is about the same age as Max. Fiery, bossy and very determined.
Chan Kan	Maya Wise Man, helps Max to realise who he truly is.
Hermanjilio	(herman-kee-leo) Maya archaeologist, university professor.
Ixchel	(each-shell_ Moon Goddess
Chank	(chalk) God of storms and warfare
Itzamna	(eats-um-gnaw) Ruler of heaven, lord of day and night.
K'Awil	(caw-wheel) God of Kingship and lineage.
Ah Pukuh	(awe-pooH-coo) God of violent and unnatural death.

Name of book:	Middleworld
Date Published:	2007
Author:	J & P Voelkel
Genre:	Legend - Fantasy

## QUOTES

- “You see nothing .... You are like a burrowing snake, confined in your own little world. It is time to take wing, Max Murphy, to soar far and wide like a hawk in the sky.”
- “Life is also about the things that money can't buy.”
- “No, I locked you away like something precious. I just wanted to keep you safe, Max.”
- “I've learned my lesson, I promise you. I've had a lot of time to think about things, Max. From now on, we're going to do a lot more together, you and me.”
- “And hast thou not learnt that anything is possible? Why, if the great Lord 6-Dog can hang from a tree by his tail, who knows what else can happen?”

## VOCABULARY

<b>adrenaline</b>	A hormone released when you feel strong emotion.
<b>anguished</b>	Experiencing severe pain or suffering.
<b>auspicious</b>	Likely to be successful.
<b>barbaric</b>	Savagely cruel.
<b>beseech</b>	To implore someone to do something.
<b>concoction</b>	A mixture of various ingredients.
<b>contorted</b>	Twisted or bent out of the normal shape.
<b>Conquistadores</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> Century Spanish conquerors.
<b>daunted</b>	To make someone feel intimidated.
<b>elaborate</b>	Involving many intricate parts or details.
<b>escapade</b>	An act or incident involving excitement, daring or adventure.
<b>fresco</b>	A painting done on wet plaster.
<b>inconspicuous</b>	Not clearly visible or attracting attention.
<b>interrogation</b>	Asking questions aggressively.
<b>intricately</b>	In a very complicated or detailed manner.
<b>malevolent</b>	Showing a wish to do evil to others.
<b>masquerading</b>	To pretend to be something you're not.
<b>manoeuvre</b>	A series of moves requiring skill and care.
<b>pungent</b>	Having a sharply strong taste or smell.
<b>raucously</b>	With a disturbingly loud and harsh noise.
<b>summoned</b>	Ordered someone to be present.
<b>vanquished</b>	To thoroughly defeat.
<b>vengeance</b>	Punishment inflicted for an injury or wrong doing.
<b>warped</b>	Bent or twisted out of shape.

## DISCUSSION POINTS

- How does the concept of 'fate' in this story compare to Holes?
- Do we need to change our minds or our bodies in order to achieve our dreams?
- Would this story make the basis of a good blockbuster film? Why?
- Can playing video games prepare you for real life?

