

Selecting a book for your reading program is an important decision. To help you select the right book for your young readers and your community, we are providing the following context related to potentially sensitive content to help make a well-informed decision. As always, we encourage and recommend that book selections come after a full read of the book by multiple decision-makers or stakeholders.

Almost Super
by Marion Jensen

Read This Book to Discover...

The rollicking tale of a family of superheroes. When Rafter and Benny Bailey discover their unique superpowers are anything but super, they team up with Juanita (from the feuding Johnson family), to defeat the ultimate villain, October Jones. The tale is told with zest and humor, and no small amount of action sequences. There is much cartoonish superhero peril, but through it all, the Bailey brothers learn new ways to navigate middle school, family dynamics, and teamwork. They even come to recognize what true ‘superpowers’ they already have.

What to Watch Out For...

The book contains a number of battles and explosions from bad guys doing bad stuff, but people are never really hurt or meaningfully injured. At one point, Rafter and his father must confront an armed robber at a convenience store—who fires his gun on the pair—to no effect. (The bullets ricochet off a “titanium-and-Kevlar weave” helmet.) The robber is subdued and the story proceeds with its regular pyrotechnics. (pp. 105-106)

