Read Chapter 9 of ***The Keeping Room***

**Vocabulary Words:** Students who have their own books are asked to write the definitions in their books in the margins. Students who don’t have their own books will write on sticky notes.

**Discussion Points:** Students who have their own book will highlight these main points. Plus, they are encouraged to write in their books too. (thinking, thoughts, etc.)

1. Page 113 – Discuss the letter. – Why does Joseph live in the keeping room?In your opinion, why is young Joseph thinking about his father in prison. What would you be thinking about your father? Why? **Why is Joseph telling his father “we will never be the same?” What does Joseph mean by this statement? How will the boot scars always be in our floors? Explain how the changes will be always in our hearts. What changes is Joseph referring too? Why will the changes forever be in our hearts? Whose hearts is Joseph talking about?**

2. Page 113 – See if the students have anything they want to discuss on these pages. Discuss any other points of interest from the students’ perspective. What is Joseph’s new job? How does he feel about it? It is very important to understand how Joseph feels after a long day’s work at the prison taking care of the sick, the injured, & the other American prisoners that the British has captured & brought to Camden, SC. Take some time to describe this event in detail. How would you feel? Why? Will this change Joseph’s thinking now or later in the book? Think back to Chapter 3 pages 18 & 19, how does this affect Joseph’s loyalty to his father now? Is Joseph really being punished? Why or Why not? **Why does Joseph finally feel calmness and peace?**

3. Page 114—115 – Discuss any points of interest from the students’ perspective. Begin reading at paragraph 2 and read until you read 5 paragraphs ending with “In this man’s eyes, I am worth little more than the worm. Where have you read this before? Is this event significant to the story? Why or why not? Explain the similarities & differences of the two events that took place (chapter 6 bottom p. 80-82). **Why does Joseph give in? Is young Joseph standing tall? Explain.**

4. Page 115-117 – Discuss any other points of interest from the students’ perspective. Begin reading at paragraph 4 on p. 115. Explain what Cato is singing about. How does Joseph feel about the song/story that Cato is telling? What are your feelings or emotions over these 2 pages of reading? Discuss with a partner or your group. **What promise does Joseph make to Cato? How is Joey testing his loyalty to his father? How does this event interfere with his loyalty to his father?** Explain why Cato understands misery.