

Nerdlandia By Gary Soto Lesson Plans

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Racing the Past - Sis Deans 2011-04-01

A moving story about survival, recovery, and the power of determination. There was something else driving Ricky as he sped down Ridge Road under that cloudless blue sky. "Everybody knows a Gordon's middle name is Thief." The hatred and hurt rose up inside him. His stride lengthened. His arms pumped faster. He could feel the new-found fuel burning in his muscles. Today would be the day Ricky beat the bus. "The best thing your father ever did was get himself killed." Though he'd never admit it out loud, secretly Ricky Gordon agrees. It's been three months since his dad's fatal car accident, but Ricky is still haunted by memories of violent beatings and hurtful words. His mind won't let him forget, and neither will the kids at school. And if Ricky gets into one more fight he'll be in serious trouble. The fights always begin on the bus. That's where the kids corner Ricky, teasing him until he's so angry that he hits back. There has to be another way to get to school. Ricky decides to try running. At first the three-mile run is pure torture, but soon he begins to build speed and stamina. It's not long before people notice his dedication and his talent. And finally he accepts the challenge that has been facing him all along: he will race the bus -- and win.

Que Monton de Tamales! - Gary Soto 1996-08
Maria esta ayudando con la preparacion de los tamales de Navidad y decide calarse el anillo de diamantes de su mama ... pero no descubre que el anillo a desaparecido hasta horas despues.

Novio Boy - Gary Soto 2006-06-01

Rudy anxiously prepares for and then goes out on a first date with an attractive girl who is older than he is.

The Cat's Meow - Gary Soto 1997

Eight-year-old Nicole, who is part Mexican, is amazed when her cat Pip starts speaking in Spanish.

Pacific Crossing - 2003-08-01

Intended as a literary study guide with activities designed for group and individual projects. Includes a book summary, author information, vocabulary builders, comprehension and discussion questions and cross-curricular activities. Some pages are reproducible for classroom use.

Operation Beautiful - Caitlin Boyle 2012-12-27

Spread a positive message with Operation Beautiful! You're beautiful just the way you are. Smile! Let your inner beauty shine. Imagine walking into a dressing room and finding notes like these stuck to the mirror. How would it make you feel? Operation Beautiful is a movement that promotes positivity and self-esteem by encouraging people to post notes with uplifting messages in public places, all in the hopes of changing the way people see themselves. The movement started out with a website and became a book for adults that published in August 2010. Our new book features notes written by real girls from all over the world alongside stories of how writing and finding these notes has changed their lives. Author and

Operation Beautiful creator Caitlin Boyle also shares tips meant especially for girls on issues such as body image, bullying, and healthy eating. This book is an essential read for all growing girls, and is organized and written in a way that is meant for girls to share with their moms or their best friends!

Neighborhood Odes - Gary Soto 1992

An exuberant celebration of everyday life from an award-winning team.

Summer on Wheels - Gary Soto 1995

Hector and his best friend Mondo enjoy many exciting adventures when they take a six-day bike trip from their East Los Angeles neighborhood to the Santa Monica beach during summer vacation.

The Beet Fields - Gary Paulsen 2011-02-08

For a 16-year-old boy out in the world alone for the first time, every day's an education in the hard work and boredom of migrant labor; every day teaches him something more about friendship, or hunger, or profanity, or lust--always lust. He learns how a poker game, or hitching a ride, can turn deadly. He discovers the secret sadness and generosity to be found on a lonely farm in the middle of nowhere. Then he joins up with a carnival and becomes a grunt, running a ride and shilling for the geek show. He's living the hard carny life and beginning to see the world through carny eyes. He's tough. Cynical. By the end of the summer he's pretty sure he knows it all. Until he meets Ruby.

The Afterlife - Gary Soto 2006-08-01

Chuy's life ends suddenly. While floating around as a ghost, he learns more about himself. Which should he fear more--losing the life he left behind or his next unknown journey?

Too Many Tamales - Gary Soto 1993-09-15

This modern classic celebrates the tradition of tamales and family bonding at Christmas.

Christmas Eve started out so perfectly for Maria. Snow had fallen and the streets glittered. Maria's favorite cousins were coming over and she got to help make the tamales for Christmas dinner. It was almost too good to be true when her mother left the kitchen for a moment and Maria got to try on her beautiful diamond ring . . . This is the story of a treasure thought to be lost in a batch of tamales; of a desperate and funny attempt by Maria and her cousins to eat their way out of trouble; and the warm way a family pulls

together to make it a perfect Christmas after all. Also available in Spanish as ¡Qué montón de tamales!

Guys Write for Guys Read - Jon Scieszka 2005

There's something for every guy in this collection of stories, mini-memoirs, advice, poems, comics and drawings chosen by readers on the Guys Read web site.

Dear Greta - Yvette Poshoglian 2022-03-01

This was meant to be Alice's year to shine, but things are already going wrong... At school, she's given young environmental activist Greta Thunberg as her pen pal for a fictional writing assignment. Why couldn't Alice get someone easy to write to, like a pop star? Then she's put in charge of taking the Harmony Day Food Fair online, which seems impossible, especially when she is teamed up with the most annoying boy in her school. As if she didn't have enough on her plate, Alice gets kicked out of her bedroom by her grandmother coming to stay. And no matter what Alice does, she'll never be able to live up to her infuriating big sister's achievements, right? Through her letters to Greta, Alice finds herself opening up about her life. And as Alice approaches the hard questions by wondering, 'What would Greta do?', she starts to believe that she can make a difference - a big one.

Buried Onions - Gary Soto 2006

On the mean streets of southeast Fresno, 19-year-old Eddie is just trying to get by. All he wants is to forget his violent past, hold down a job, and walk a straight line. But after his cousin's murder, Eddie finds himself drawn back into the cycle of violence.

The Old Man and His Door - Gary Soto 1998-10-26

Misunderstanding his wife's instructions, an old man sets out for a party with a door on his back.

Chato's Kitchen - Gary Soto 2002-01-01

Teaching Literary Elements With Short Stories -

Tara McCarthy 2000-06

Ready-to-use, high interest stories with mini-lessons and activities that help students understand literary elements and use them effectively in their writing.

Living Up the Street - Gary Soto 2009-07-01

Biography, autobiography, and memoir is among the best ways to teach students to appreciate nonfiction reading.

Chato's Kitchen - Gary Soto 1997-09-22

To get the "ratoncitos," little mice, who have moved into the barrio to come to his house, Chato the cat prepares all kinds of good food: fajitas, frijoles, salsa, enchiladas, and more.

Golden Boy - Tara Sullivan 2013

"A Tanzanian albino boy finds himself the ultimate outsider, hunted because of the color of his skin"--

Chato Y Su Cena / Chato's Kitchen - Gary Soto 1998-01-01

A Summer Life - Gary Soto 1991-08-01

Gary Soto writes that when he was five "what I knew best was at ground level." In this lively collection of short essays, Soto takes his reader to a ground-level perspective, resreating in vivid detail the sights, sounds, smells, and textures he knew growing up in his Fresno, California, neighborhood. The "things" of his boyhood tie it all together: his Buddha "spotched with gold," the taps of his shoes and the "engines of sparks that lived beneath my soles," his worn tennies smelling of "summer grass, asphalt, the moist sock breathing the defeat of basesall." The child's world is made up of small things--small, very important things.

Cora Cooks Pancit - Dorina K. Lazo Gilmore 2014-05

When all her older siblings are away, Cora's mother finally lets her help make pancit, a Filipino noodle dish. Includes a recipe for pancit.

Where Sparrows Work Hard - Gary Soto 1981

Something Good - Robert Munsch 2019-10-21

Tyaa is grocery shopping with her dad, but he's not letting her pick any of the good stuff like cookies, ice cream, or candies. When she holds still and is mistaken for the best, most lifelike doll in the supermarket, an argument at the till leads her dad to buy something good after all. A newly designed Classic Munsch picture book introduces this tale of mistaken merchandise to a new generation of young readers.

Pieces of the Heart - Gary Soto 1993-03

Fifteen stories chronicle the complexities and experiences of Mexican-American life from California and the Southwest to Chicago and New York

Jesse - Gary Soto 2006

Two Mexican American brothers hope that junior

college will help them escape their heritage of tedious physical labor.

Baseball in April and Other Stories - Gary Soto 2000-04

Events of everyday life reveal big themes-- youth/age, love/friendship, success/failure--in this collection of short stories featuring Latino kids as they perform in the school talent show, go out on dates, and take part in activities.

The Glory Field - Walter Dean Myers 2020-10-06

An exciting, eye-catching repackaging of acclaimed author Walter Dean Myers' bestselling paperbacks, to coincide with the publication of *SUNRISE OVER FALLUJA* in hardcover. "Those shackles didn't rob us of being black, son, they robbed us of being human." This is the story of one family. A family whose history saw its first ancestor captured, shackled, and brought to this country from Africa. A family who can still see remnants of the shackles that held some of its members captive -- even today. It is a story of pride, determination, struggle, and love. And of the piece of the land that holds them together throughout it all.

Local News - Gary Soto 1993

A collection of thirteen short stories about the everyday lives of Mexican American young people in California's Central Valley.

Peter Rabbit Tales: Starting School - Beatrix Potter 2021-09-28

Peter is excited to be going to forest school with Benjamin Bunny, they can't wait to learn all about the woodland they live in. But when he learns that his sisters won't be there, the little bunny gets nervous. Luckily Mrs. Rabbit is there to reassure him and hold his paw on the first day. With new, humorous illustrations of Beatrix Potter's well-loved characters, this reassuring tale mirrors young children's early experiences. This book is a perfect gift for children to prepare for their first days at school or nursery.

The Skirt - Gary Soto 1997-04-01

For fans of Gary Soto and Matt de la Peña comes a tale of a contemporary Mexican-American family with a "spunky and imaginative heroine" (Publishers Weekly). Miata Ramirez is scared and upset. The skirt she brought to show off at school is gone. She brought her forklorico skirt to show off at school and left it on the bus. It's not just any skirt. This skirt belonged to Miata's mother when she was a child in Mexico. On Sunday,

Miata and her dance group are supposed to go to dance forklórico, or traditional Mexican folk dances; and that kind of dancing requires a skirt like the one Miata lost. It's Friday afternoon. Miata doesn't want her parents to know she's lost something again. Can she find a way to rescue the precious skirt in time? With its focus on family ties, friendship, and ethnic pride and includes an afterword from its acclaimed author, *The Skirt* is a story that children everywhere will relate to and be inspired by, no matter their background. "A light, engaging narrative that successfully combines information on Hispanic culture with familiar and recognizable childhood themes.... A fine read-aloud and discussion starter, this story blends cultural differences with human similarities to create both interest and understanding."—SLJ "Light, easy reading . . . offering readers a cast and situations with which to identify, whatever their own ethnic origins."—*The Bulletin* "Soto's light tale offers a pleasant blend of family ties, friendship and ethnic pride...[and Miata is] a spunky and imaginative heroine."—*Publishers Weekly*

The Pool Party - Gary Soto 2013-05-29

Rudy Herrera is surprised and excited when he gets an invitation to a pool party. It's from Tiffany Perez, the richest and most popular girl in school. Rudy's grandmother, "El Shorty," thinks he is going off to shoot pool. His sister, Estela, warns him not to make a fool of himself, or worse, embarrass her. Rudy's father teaches him how to make small talk and tells him Tiffany will like him because he's a real person, not a phony. All Rudy cares about is what to wear, what kinds of dives to do, and what to bring Tiffany. When the big day arrives, Rudy is in high spirits. Will he make a big splash at the pool party? From Grandfather "El Shorty" to Little Rudy, the Herreras are a family who not only live and work together, but love and enjoy one another. Gary Soto, poet and storyteller, gives young readers a story of simple pleasures, simply told and simply wonderful.

Chato Y Su Cena -

Operation Beautiful - Caitlin Boyle 2010-08-03

An empowering book with photos, notes, and true stories about an underground campaign to recognize the true beauty within every woman. Tired of watching women pick themselves apart

in front of the mirror, blogger Caitlin Boyle scribbled a note on a Post-it: "YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL!" and slapped it on the mirror of a public bathroom. With one small act, she kick-started a movement. In a matter of days, women were undertaking their own feats of resistance, posting uplifting notes on gym lockers, diet shakes in supermarkets, weight-loss guides in bookstores, and anywhere else a nagging voice of self-criticism might lurk. Emboldening and contagious, the "operation" has attracted widespread attention from the media, including the *New York Daily News* and *salon.com*. Operation Beautiful showcases the notes women have posted around the world and the stories behind them, along with interviews, interesting research findings, and tips for improving one's outlook on life. Blending a confessional tone with gutsy observations about redefining beauty, the chapters address key issues for women of all ages, including Fighting Fat Talk, Family and Friends, Food, Fitness, Faith, and Going Forward. In the scrapbook tradition of *PostSecret* and *Davy Rothbart's Found*, Operation Beautiful is filled with black-and-white photos and a two-color design, making it the perfect gift for any friend, sister, daughter, or niece. Watch a Video

Lottery Rose - Irene Hunt 2021-03-23

A boy learns what it means to give and receive love in this beautifully refreshed edition of *Lottery Rose* from Newbery Award-winning author Irene Hunt. Georgie Burgess doesn't talk about the abuse that he receives from his mother and her boyfriend. Even though he's constantly getting into trouble at school, he continues to hide his hurt, refusing to tell anyone what life is like at home. Instead, he finds escape between the pages of books depicting beautiful gardens and flowers. When Georgie wins a small rosebush in a supermarket lottery, he gives it all the love and caring he's never had. Soon after, his life begins to change when child services remove him from his mother's care and look for a new, safe home for him. But all the while, Georgie still needs to find a home for his rosebush, and through the people he meets, he slowly learns what it means to be loved and accepted.

Boys at Work - Gary Soto 1995

When ten-year-old Rudy breaks an older boy's Discman at a baseball game, he and his friend Alex come up with a variety of ways to make

money to pay for a new one.

Mice and Beans - Pam Muñoz Ryan 2011

Rosa Maria spends the week getting ready for her granddaughter's birthday party and trying to avoid attracting mice--unaware that the mice in her walls are preparing for a party of their own.

Petty Crimes - Gary Soto 1998

A hard-hitting short story collection takes a hard look at teens and preteens on the edge.

Taking Sides - Gary Soto 1991

Lincoln Mendoza has to face his homeboys when his posh new school goes up against his old school on the basketball court.