



Last Stop on Market Street

Written by: Matt de la Peña

Illustrated by: Christian Robinson

Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty and fun in their routine and the world around them.

Lexile: AD610L **AR Level:** 3.3

Awards: 2016 Newberry Medal, 2016 Caldecott Honor, 2016 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor

Author Website: <http://mattdelapena.com/>

Illustrator Website: <http://theartoffun.com/>

Book Trailer/Author interview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-m6mIZY8aI>

Other Websites/links: <http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=42323>

Food: Hearty stew or soup

Nonfiction Title:

David Rubel, *If I Had a Hammer*

Introduction:

For young readers- a rendition of "The Wheels on the Bus" could be an engaging way to prepare readers for the story. Activate and build prior knowledge by discussing why one takes the bus, and if/why students have ridden a public bus. Discuss the difference between a school/field trip bus and a public bus.

Story time Activities:

*Work with students to plan and design a flyer in a software program such as Microsoft Publisher (or the like) advertising a food drive.

Give different homeroom classes different responsibilities in organizing the drive.

Donate collected food items to a local food bank, or start one at school for students in need.

*Play gratitude games-

- Appreciation postcards to family, friends, and teachers/school staff

- Thankful for-photo hunt- take turns sending a camera home, or have parents email/send in photos

- Lists- top 10 things students are most grateful for.

Discussion Questions:

1. Nana helps CJ see that there is beauty everywhere we look. Let's look around after outside and see what beauty we can find around us.
2. The blind man on the bus tells CJ to close his eyes and see with his ears. Let's close our eyes and listen. What do we "see?"
3. CJ and Nana volunteer at a soup kitchen each Sunday. Tell about a time when you have helped someone in need.
4. CJ and his Nana have a Sunday routine. What is that routine? Do you have a routine on a certain day?
5. What is something that we could do to help others in the near future?