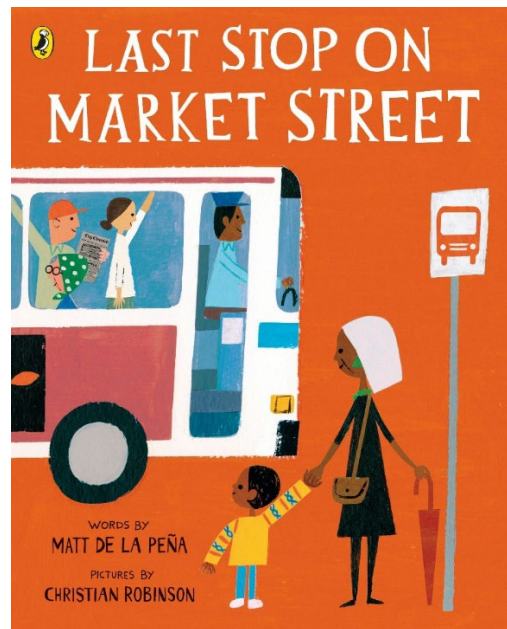


Lesson Plans for Last Stop on Market Street



Written by Matt de la Peña, Illustrated by Christian Robinson

Blocks

Homemade City Blocks

Prep time: Multi-day project

Collect a variety of different sized cardboard boxes, along with paint, markers, tape, glue and aluminum foil (this one is optional). Give each child a box to decorate and lay out the example pictures (below). The goal is to create a collection of city blocks that the children can use to make their own town. These types of blocks are great for infants and toddlers as well because they're lightweight and easily accessible. (Photo from my own classroom)



Dramatic Play

Bus Station

Prep time: less than 10 minutes

Set out your classroom chairs arranged like a bus. You can make a steering wheel out of cardboard and cut the ticket stubs out (below). Have vests, hats, and other props for children to pretend to be the driver and passengers.

Music

Wheels on the Bus

This classic song immediately comes to mind when reading *Last Stop on Market Street*. The best part is the song's versatility. You can add lyrics that tie in the passengers on Nana and CJ's bus ride:

The guitar on the bus goes *twang, twang, twang...*

The dog on the bus goes *sniff, sniff, sniff...*

The coins on the bus go *clink, clink, clink...*

Musical Feelings

CJ closes his eyes during the bus ride to take in the song being played by the man with the guitar. How does music make you feel? What's your favorite style of music? The students in your class will, obviously, have some of their own favorite songs. Take some time to play a variety of different instrumental styles with them: Classical, Reggae, Jazz, Electronica, etc. Talk to your students about what it makes them feel!

Art

Graffiti Art

Prep time: 5-10 minutes

Graffiti has existed for thousands of years, but the idea of graffiti as an art form is a bit more of a modern idea. Artists such as Jean-Michel Basquiat and Banksy have helped create space for this more "alternative" art form.

Lay out paper and art materials such as paint, markers, crayons, etc. Give your students examples of graffiti (below) or print off pictures of some of your favorites. I loved using Jean-Michel Basquiat in my classroom. His work always resonated with my students (especially the dinosaur pieces).

For **infants and toddlers**, use the tried-and-true water on concrete trick. Hand out some paintbrushes and cups of water on a sunny day and find a nearby sidewalk. It's the benefit of painting without the mess! If you don't have a sidewalk, construction paper or a small chalkboard work the same way. Be sure to talk about graffiti while the children are painting to tie in some new vocabulary.



Literacy

Vocabulary Words

Below, you will find real photo reference cards for some of the things CJ and Nana see on their bus ride. These aren't meant to be flashcards! Rather, they are display photos to place in your room or house in your writing center. Whichever way you use them, hopefully they allow your students to connect further with the story.

Community Helpers

Last Stop on Market Street makes for an excellent segue into teaching students about community helpers. Check out extra books from this list: [Community Helpers](#) or type community helpers into the search box on the NPL website for a curated list of books.



Bus



Soup Kitchen



Rain Gear



Bus Stop



Bus Driver



Guide Dog

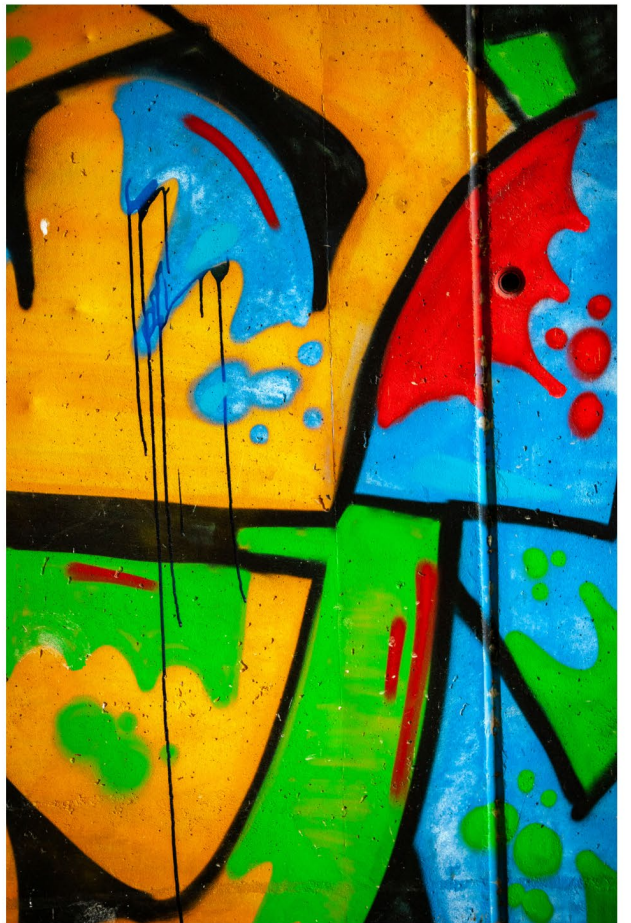
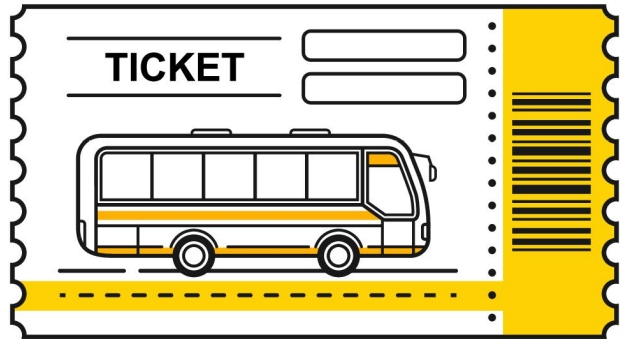
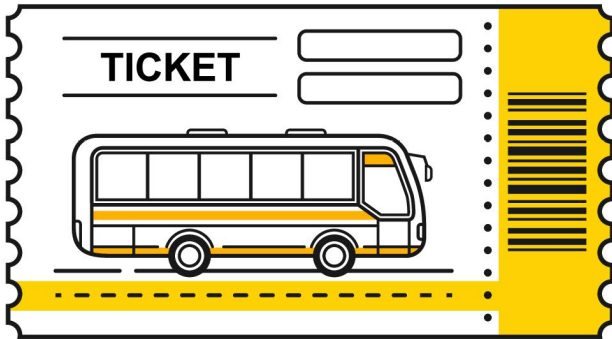
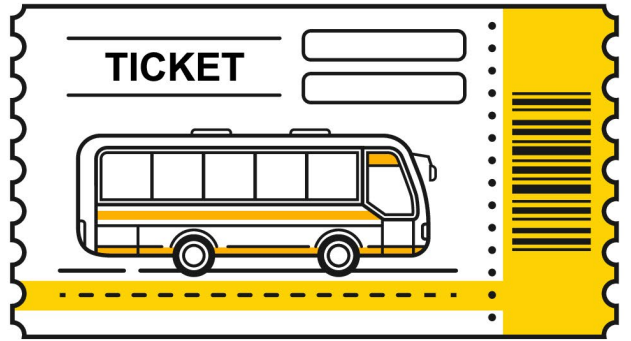
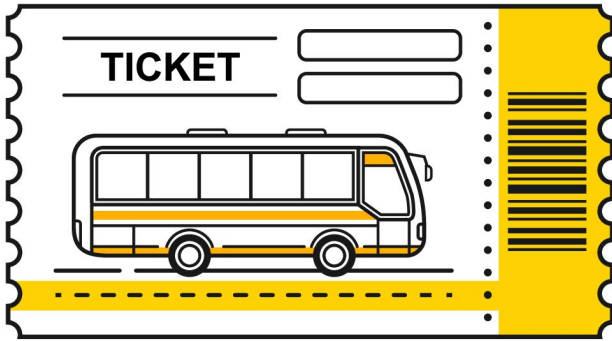


Guitar



Graffiti







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