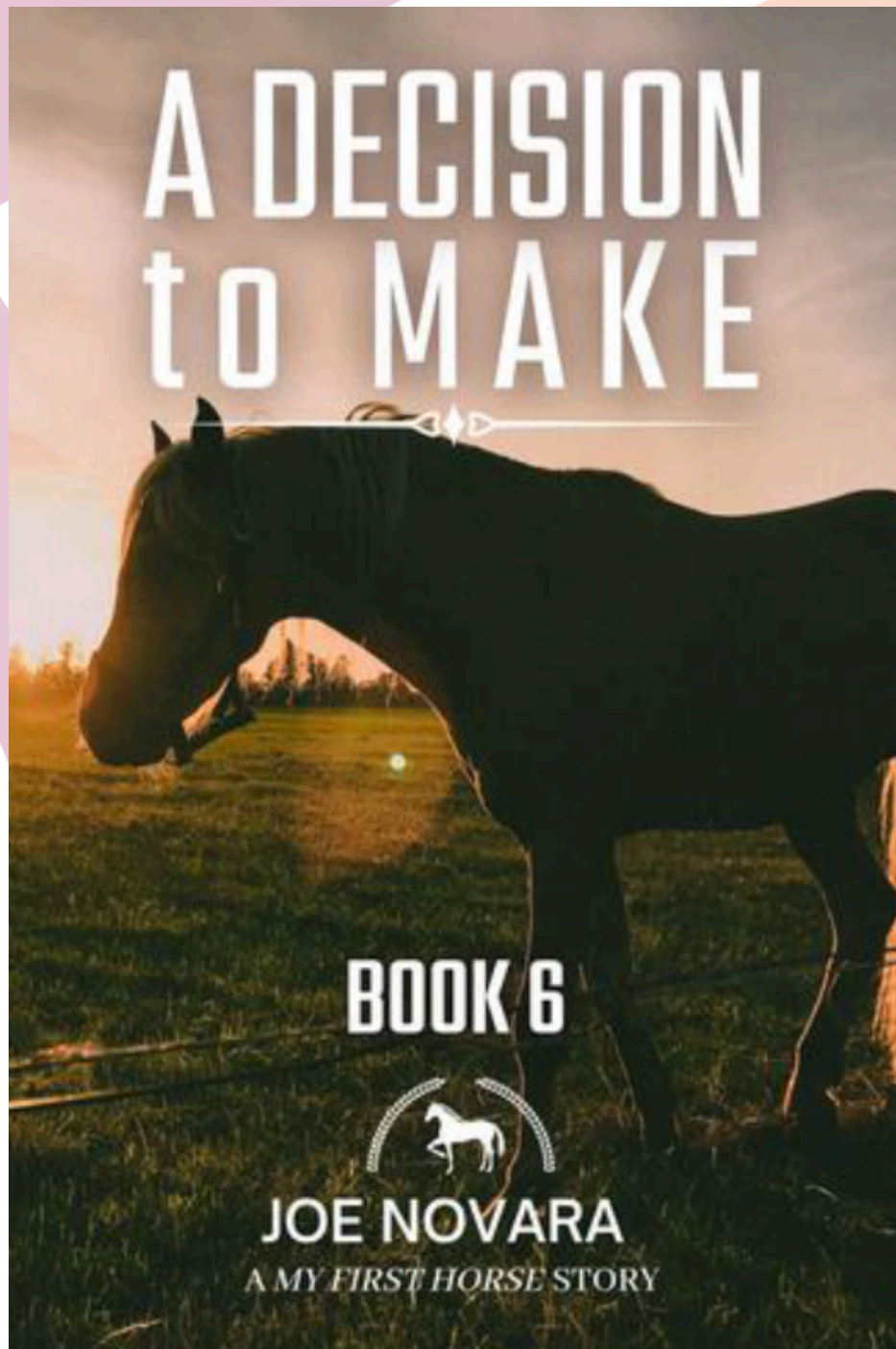


TEACHER RESOURCES & STUDENT ACTIVITIES



How to Use Storyshares Teacher Resources & Student Activities

Pre-Reading

Share **background information**.

Introduce the **vocabulary** to the students. Discuss meanings. Click here for an **instructional routine** for vocabulary.

Reading

Share the written response to reading prompt ahead of time as the **focus for reading**.

Encourage students to **read a chapter** of the text independently or in pairs.

After Reading

Students can complete the **trivia worksheet** or make it into a game! Either way, make time to review answers.

Students complete the **written response to reading** prompt.

Background Information

Nick has finally saved enough money to buy Trace, his favorite horse... but when his mother wants to go to college and can't afford it, he has a big decision to make.

Visual Vocabulary

This vocabulary guide was created with English language learners in mind. This table flags Tier 2 vocabulary words in every chapter. This guide includes the definitions in context, as well as images and examples from the text.

Trivia Questions


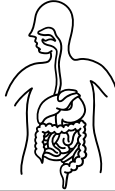

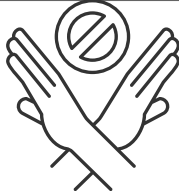
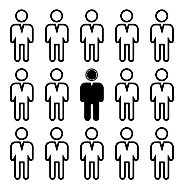


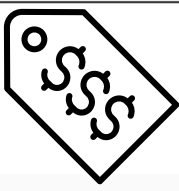
This is a ready-made student worksheet that can be given as a check for understanding after students have finished the book. You can also gamify the trivia questions, making this a small group activity. **Answers: 1. B; 2. A; 3. B; 4. C**



Click [here](#) for reading comprehension worksheets and graphic organizers.



A Decision to Make by Joe Novara

Word	Definition	Image	Example
stall (noun)	an area of a barn or stable used for holding a single animal		Paco, Carlos's horse, nickered and paced nervously in his stall . (ch 1)
internal (adjective)	of or pertaining to the inside of a body		Internal bleeding, Nick thought. (ch 1)
signal (noun)	a movement, action, or device used to give directions, warning, or other information		That's the signal a stallion uses to check and see if the mare is ready to be bred. (ch 1)
restricted (verb)	to keep within limits		Carlos was restricted to soft foods for the rest of the week. (ch 2)
rare (adjective)	not often found or seen; not common		He fixed Nick with a steady look that was rare for his quick, blackbird eyes. (ch 2)
crude (adjective)	vulgar; indecent		He was thinking through ways to say he was interested in Mandy without sounding crude or pushy or sentimental. (ch 2)
scolded (verb)	to speak in a sharp or angry way		Carlos scolded as his truck barreled toward Evansville. (ch 3)
expensive (adjective)	high in price		Allison hung on the arm of a college student wearing an expensive top coat. (ch 4)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Multiple Choice

Read the questions carefully. Choose the answer that fits the question best.

1. What motivates Nick to offer his savings to his mother?

- A. He believes his parents are financially secure without his help.
- B. He wants to support her desire to grow and pursue education.
- C. He no longer has any interest in owning a horse.
- D. He plans to use his savings for other personal expenses.

2. How did Nick's relationship with Carlos change after the incident with the cows?

- A. Carlos offers to pay Nick the money he owes him, with interest.
- B. Carlos blames Nick for the issues they encountered.
- C. Carlos ignores Nick's efforts entirely.
- D. Carlos decides to terminate their partnership.

3. Why was Nick's mother, Nina, eager to pursue college?

- A. She has a specific job offer requiring a degree.
- B. She wants to grow and discover new parts of herself.
- C. She is pressured by her family to continue education.
- D. She overestimates the family's financial stability.

4. What realization does Nick have regarding his father's rationale for not supporting Nina's college plans?

- A. His father fears Nick would abandon his horse.
- B. His father thinks education is unnecessary for women.
- C. His father's reluctance might be about more than just money.
- D. His father hates the idea of Nina succeeding more than he does.

Written Response to Reading

What does Nick's internal struggle about Trace and his mother reveal about his character? (*Nick's internal struggle about Trace and his mother reveals that he is...*)
