

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 is sure that spending time at Shamrock Stables will help Zan, his friend Tanya's stubborn, animal-loving brother... but keeping his own patience might be a bigger challenge than Nick expected.

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





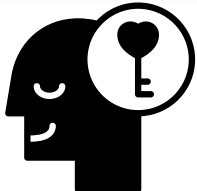
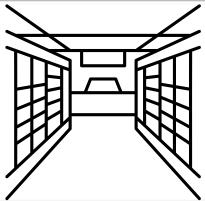

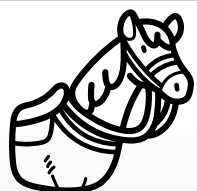
This is a ready-made student worksheet that can be given as a check for understanding after students have finished the book. You can also gamify the trivia questions, making this a small group activity. **Answers: 1. B; 2. B; 3. B; 4. A**



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



Zan, City Cowboy by Joe Novara

Word	Definition	Image	Example
stall (noun)	an area of a barn or stable used for holding a single animal		Nick Finazzo studied the dark brown mare lying on her side in the foaling stall . (ch 1)
straining (adjective)	to use the greatest amount of effort		It was straining to get out, to be free. (ch 1)
pleaded (verb)	to ask in an intense or emotional way		"You've got skinny arms and small hands. I need you to help," she pleaded . (ch 1)
contraction (noun)	a tightening feeling in the stomach that helps to deliver a baby		The mare started another contraction . (ch 1)
imprinting (noun)	to fix firmly in the mind, memory, or feelings		"Corky's imprinting the new foal," Nick said. (ch 2)
aisle (noun)	an open space for passing between rows		Down the aisle that ran between the stalls, Nick could see Zan scratching the ears of a gray-black dog. (ch 2)
whine (verb)	to make a long, high cry that expresses pain, complaint, or fear		Then she whined at the boy, with begging eyes. (ch 3)
reins (noun) reined (verb)	noun: straps that a rider can use to control a horse verb: to guide or control using reins		Nick tightened the reins . (ch 6) When he reined high on the neck... (ch 6)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Multiple Choice

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

1. Why did Zan decide to name the foal "Tika"?

- A. He picked it randomly from a list of names.
- B. It reminded him of a girl who ran track in Flint.
- C. He wanted to honor the horse's mother.
- D. He thought the name sounded pretty.

2. How does Nick's experience riding Trace affect his approach to handling the horse?

- A. He believes in letting the horse do whatever it wants.
- B. He insists on slowly gaining control and not rushing.
- C. He only rides Trace at a walk because he is nervous.
- D. He allows Zan to ride Trace without supervision.

3. When Barkley chased the rabbit into the drain pipe, what showed that she was an experienced rabbit hound?

- A. She decided to hunt for squirrels instead.
- B. She barked and tried to squeeze into the pipe intelligently.
- C. She gave up easily and walked back to the truck.
- D. She ignored the scent and lay down in the grass.

4. What lesson does Corky try to teach Zan about handling young horses like Tika?

- A. That imprinting sets boundaries for safety as the foal grows.
- B. That horses are just like house pets and should be played with.
- C. That it is better for kids to ride the strongest horses immediately.
- D. That letting foals nip and push is harmless and fun.

Written Response to Reading

What does Zan do with his last hamburger at the barbecue, and what does it reveal about his character? (*At the barbecue, Zan..... This action reveals....*)
