

Going Places

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Creativity, Engineering, Friendship, Transportation

Book Brief: Rafael and his classmates are eager to participate in the Going Places contest. Each student receives the exact same kit to construct a go-cart for the race. While Rafael constructs his go-cart by following the instructions precisely, his neighbor Maya has a more creative approach in mind. Rafael and Maya decide to team up to construct a truly unique creation for race day.

Author and Illustrator:

Paul A. Reynolds and
Peter H. Reynolds



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Read the title of the book and look at the cover. Ask, “What do you think is going to happen in this story? What do you notice about the vehicle?”

Picture Walk: Flip through some pages and have students share what they see happening in the book. Ask, “What kinds of vehicles do you see in this story?”

Vocabulary: Review these transportation words using the Picture Vocabulary Cards: go-cart, airplane, car

Purpose for Reading: “In this story we get to see kids build their own vehicles. Not everyone in the story thinks about designing and building vehicles in the same way.”

WHILE WE READ

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (LEVELS 1-4)

Throughout the story, pause and ask...

- **Level 1:** “What parts are on the vehicle? Say or point to them in the picture.”
- **Level 2:** “How are they building the vehicle here?”
- **Level 3:** “Why do you think Maya decided to build her vehicle that way? Why did Rafael change his mind about his vehicle?”
- **Level 4:** “What do you think Rafael and Maya will create next? How would you build your vehicle for the Going Places contest?”

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Say, “Even though all of the students in the story got the exact same kit, Rafael and Maya used imagination and collaboration to create something different and unique.”

Extending Thinking: At the beginning, Rafael is happy to build the go-cart with the directions. He also enjoys working with Maya to create something different. Do you think one way is better than the other? Are there good things about following directions AND making something on your own?

BOOK ACTIVITY:

Design Your Own Vehicle

Materials: Paper and writing/drawing materials, vehicle and animal books, recycled materials (Optional: paper towel rolls, screw caps, buttons, etc.)

Have students think about what kind of vehicle they would like to create if they were in the Going Places contest. Have books with different vehicles to

explore, or animal books to examine how they move (like in the story). Students can look for inspiration in books to design and draw their own vehicle. Have them share about the different elements on their vehicle and label the parts. If there's lots of excitement about designing their vehicle, you may want to offer some recycled materials to help students bring their designs to life!