

Harvesting Hope:

The Story of Cesar Chavez

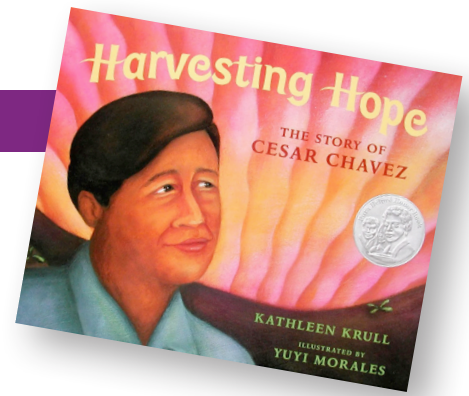
A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Civil Rights, Hope, Migrant Farming

Book Brief: As a boy, Cesar Chavez was shy and teased at school. His family worked in the fields for barely enough money to survive. Cesar knew things had to change, and he thought that—maybe—he could help change them.

Author:
Kathleen Krull

Illustrator:
Yuyi Morales



TIME TO READ!

The Cover: Look at the cover of the book with students and ask, “What do you see on the cover of this book? What is the setting of the story?” Discuss student responses and keep them in mind for the picture walk.

Picture Walk: Flip through some pages and ask

students what they notice. Remind them of what they shared about the cover. Ask students if they still think the same things based on the pictures in the book, or if they have some new ideas about what will happen in the story. What makes them think that?

Vocabulary: This story will introduce vocabulary relating to gardening. Use Picture Cards: *summer, farm/ranch, vegetable, soil/dirt, crop, fruit, air, field,*

water, grow, farmer. Ask students if they know of words in their home language(s) that mean the same thing as these words

Purpose for Reading:

“This book is a biography, that means it is a true story about the life of Cesar Chavez. Notice how the author starts when Cesar is a boy and tells the events in order as he grows up and becomes a man.”

WHILE WE READ

AS YOU READ, PAUSE AND ASK...

Throughout the story, pause and ask...

- **Level 1:** “Where are the crops on this page? Point to them.”
- **Level 2:** “Does Cesar like school?”
- **Level 3:** “How does Cesar feel? What makes you think that?”
- **Level 4:** “What are some ways people can continue the work of Cesar Chavez?”

LET’S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Say, “Civil rights protect people to make sure they are treated well. Cesar Chavez was a real-life civil rights leader who dedicated his life to helping others. Events from his childhood and adulthood inspired him to fight for change and justice.”

Extending Our Thinking: What words would you use to describe Cesar Chavez? Why?



BOOK ACTIVITY: Peaceful March for Change

Materials Needed: paper, rulers/ pencils (for sign handles), markers/ crayons/colored pencils, tape

In this story, Cesar Chavez led a march through California. Look back at some of the march signs depicted in the book and discuss their meaning. Then, as a group, discuss something from your school or community that you would like to improve or change. This could be anything from creating more kindness at recess to keeping the school clean. After choosing their topic, have students discuss why this change is important and create powerful march signs to share why. Optional: organize a school-wide peaceful march or display signs in the hallways.