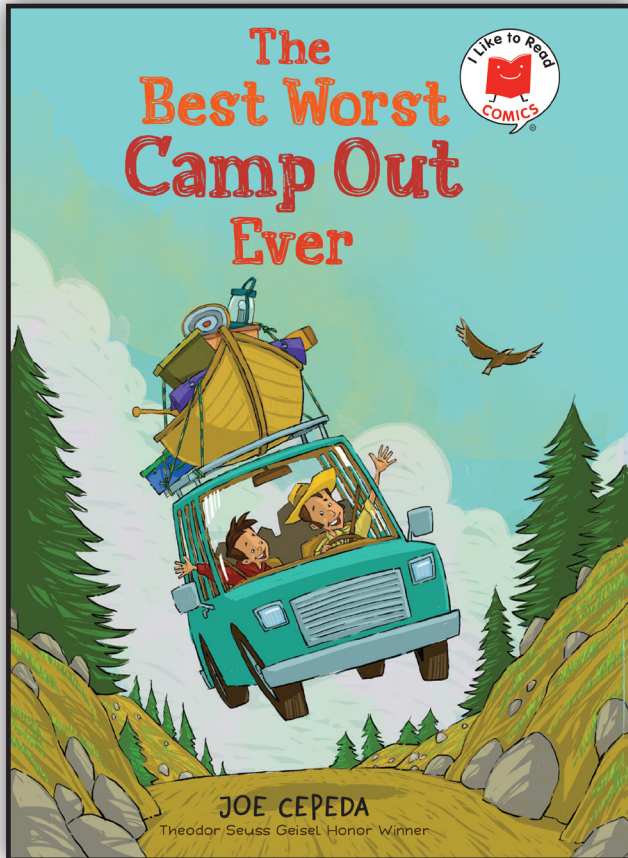


# HOLIDAY HOUSE EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



## *The Best Worst Camp Out Ever*

by Joe Cepeda

### ABOUT THE BOOK

**A boy and his father go on a camping trip where everything goes wrong! Or does it?**

Despite one disaster after another, in the end, father and son agree it was their best weekend ever!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discuss the cover art. What camping equipment do you see? Name other camping items that could be useful to the boy and his dad. How does the art show a bumpy ride?
- Point out the main character on the first page of the book. Discuss the warnings from his classmates when he tells them he is going camping with his dad. The boy and his dad don't see wolves and lions, but they do see a bear. What other animals do they see?
- Take a close look at pages 5 & 6. How do the illustrations show the boy's excitement about the camping trip? What is the first thing that goes wrong for the boy and his dad? Discuss all the other things that go wrong.
- Compare Camp Lago Azul and Camp Lago Verde. Explain why the boy asks his dad if they are going to have a good time. How does the boy's dad respond? The boy and his dad hike to the falls. Why do they have to use Plan B? In what other situations do they have to resort to Plan B?



- Discuss how the speech balloons reveal which character is speaking. Note the illustrations when the boy and his dad are hiking to the falls. What do you learn from the small frames? How do the larger illustrations give the reader an idea of the distance they hike? Point to the frame that reveals how tired the dad is. How does the boy offer encouragement?
- How does the last page of the book reveal the meaning of the title? What do you think the boy will tell his classmates about the camping trip with his dad?

Guide created by Pat Scales, retired school librarian and independent consultant, Greenville, South Carolina.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Joe Cepeda** received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach, and also studied Engineering at Cornell University. He is a fine artist, as well as an illustrator of more than thirty-five book jackets and picture books, which have received many honors including Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies, Parenting Magazine's Reading Magic Award, Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Platinum Award, Texas Library Association 2x2 Reading List, ALA Notable Books, and Child Magazine's Best Book of the Year. Joe illustrated *Hey, Hey Hay!* by Christy Mihaly, *¡Vámonos! Let's Go!* by René Colato Laínez, and *Swing Sisters* by Karen Deans. He both wrote and illustrated the I Like to Read® Comics book *The Best Worst Camp Out Ever*, and the I Like to Read® books *Up, I Dig, I See*, and *I Hop*. *I Hop* received a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor, given to the most distinguished books for beginning readers. Joe received an American Library Association Pura Belpré Honor (for outstanding books that celebrate the Latino cultural experience) and the Recognition of Merit Award from the George G. Stone Center for Children's Books. He lives in Claremont, California. More at [JoeCepeda.com](http://JoeCepeda.com).

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