

Gibberish (continued)

Pre-Reading Focus Questions

- What does it mean to communicate?
- Think of a time when you had trouble communicating. How did you feel?
- What are some ways to communicate? (facial expressions, body posture, gestures/hand signals, intonation, pictures/drawings/sketches, labels)

Extension/Higher Level Thinking

- What did the author mean when he described Julie as “something **unexpected?**”
- Do you know of anyone in your classroom or school who might hear gibberish? How do you think they may feel?
- How do you think you or your school might help?
- Have you ever heard gibberish? How did you feel? What did others do to help? What did you do to help yourself?

About the Book Author/Illustrator (by publisher)

Young Vo learned to draw before he could write. He drew a lot of characters then began to write stories for them. There were not many job choices that he could make, so he decided to be an animator, illustrator and author. Now he writes and draws his stories before the sun rises, then during the day, he animates. Follow him on Instagram @youngvoarte

After-Reading Discussion Questions

- How did Dat feel at the beginning of the story? Why do you think he felt that way?
- How did he feel at the end of the story? Why did he feel that way?
- What were some ways Julie communicated with Dat?

Interdisciplinary

This story can be connected to social studies units on community and immigration.

Additional Resource



P&P Live! Young Vo GIBBERISH with Minh Lê:

Young Vo discusses his book with author Minh Lê and addresses the color scheme, use of symbols and inspiration.

About the Consultant Carolyn McElligott

Carolyn McElligott co-authored and provided guidance for this guide. She is currently a K-5 EL teacher at Melrose Public Schools in Massachusetts. During her tenure in Melrose she has taught second grade, delivered instructional coaching to Pre-K – fifth grade educators and taught adult English learners.

About The Immigrant Learning Center

The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. of Malden, MA, is a not-for-profit organization that gives immigrants a voice in three ways. The English Language Program provides free, year-round ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes to help immigrant and refugee adults in Greater Boston become successful workers, parents and community members. The Public Education Institute informs Americans about immigrants and immigration in the United States. The Institute for Immigration Research, a joint venture with George Mason University, conducts research on the economic contributions of immigrants.