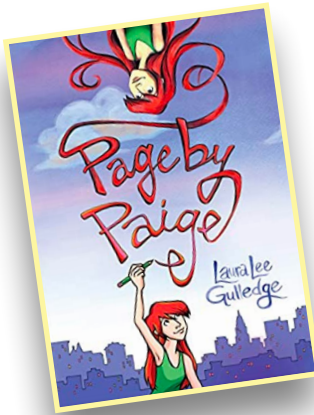


# CATCH a spark!

## Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



### Page by Page

Written and Illustrated by Laura Lee Gulledge  
192 pages / Grades 6-8

Paige Turner has recently moved and is struggling to adjust to her new life, along with all the regular adolescent struggles. She uses the pages of her sketchbook to make sense of everything and does so in a moving and powerful way as she realizes the importance of opening up and letting people in. An important book for any teens struggling to find their place.

### C Context

**Adolescence and Social Emotional** themes. From feeling alone, to making friends, to finding love, to opening up and allowing people in, to relationships with parents, there are so many layers of social emotional topics to discuss.

**Idioms and nuances in language.** A great piece to help students more deeply understand figurative phrases. Connect this with visual art and **analyzing** illustrations which align with word and phrase meanings.

### A Arts

Using art as a form of **self-expression** and way to tap into understanding feelings. Give students an illustration without the words on the page and have them analyze the meaning.

**Illustration vs. graphic design.** Illustrations combine with traditional layouts of graphic novels to make them feel like they are coming off the page.

The power of **grayscale in illustration** and how it deeply conveys meaning.

### T Themes

Coming of age  
Self-expression  
Self-reflection  
Self-acceptance  
Friendship  
Getting started - creativity  
Power of the arts  
Confidence

### C Create

Give each student their own sketchbook to use a few times a week, focused on understanding themselves.

"Drawing Telephone" Paige describes the process within Rule #7. Use it with a class to connect writing, the arts, and lack of other.

Make an artistic license for yourself. Allow yourself the freedom to create and not limit yourself.

Create a message in a bottle tree. Place student expressions (art, writing, song lyrics, etc) in a tree for someone else who many need it.

### H Heart Words

ALL of the "Rules" in the book, set up as chapter headings.

*"The inside of my head is a loud place."*

*"This world ain't about how big you are or how little. It's about how every little thing touches every other thing in creation."*

*"It's up to me to draw my own beanstalk if I want to climb anywhere."*

*"Artists are granted special permission to do things that don't make sense."*

*"My pencil can do anything."*

