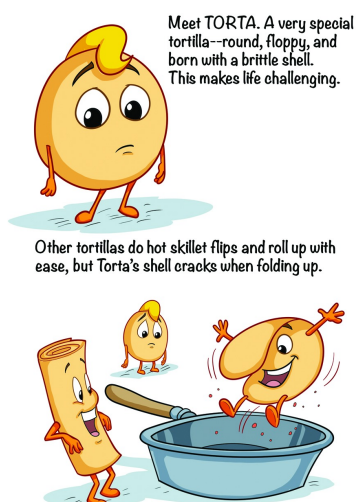


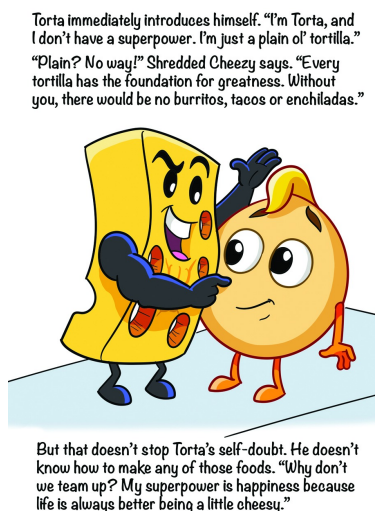
The Adventures of Captain Quesadilla

by Kevin Leurquin

A printable guide for teachers and librarians, built around the three sample spreads featured in the Peek Inside preview. Designed for grades K-4 read-alouds, small-group work, and book fair events.



Page 3 · Meet Torta



Page 7 · Snack Alley



Page 11 · Black Bean Ninja

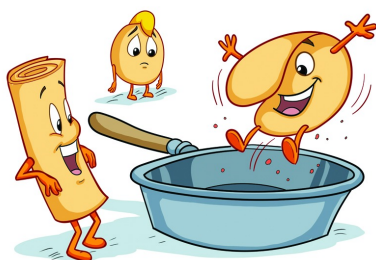
How to Use This Guide

Each of the next three pages matches one sample spread. Read the spread aloud, then work through the Before / While / After questions. Every page ends with a vocabulary word and a five-minute activity. The final page holds a whole-book wrap-up and extensions.



Meet TORTA. A very special tortilla—round, floppy, and born with a brittle shell. This makes life challenging.

Other tortillas do hot skillet flips and roll up with ease, but Torta's shell cracks when folding up.



WHAT HAPPENS

We meet Torta, a hero with a shell that cracks easily. Torta worries about being different, and readers see that feeling fragile is not the same as being weak.

"Being brave starts with believing in yourself."

Before You Read

1. Look at the picture before reading. What do you notice about Torta? What do you wonder?
2. Have you ever felt nervous about something new? What helped?

While You Read

1. What words does the author use to describe Torta's shell?
2. How do you think Torta feels on this page? Which picture clues tell you?

After You Read

1. Torta's shell is brittle. Does that make Torta weak? Why or why not?
2. What is one thing about you that makes you different — and also makes you great?
3. If you could say one encouraging thing to Torta, what would it be?

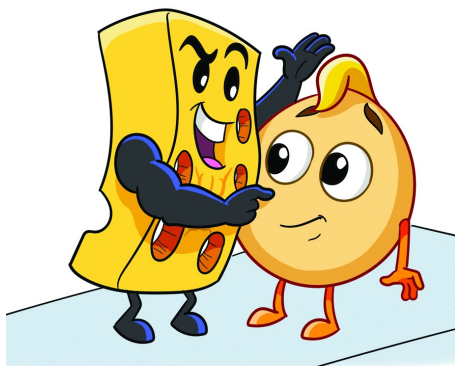
WORD OF THE PAGE

Brittle — easy to crack or break. Ask students to name something brittle (a chip, a cracker) and something strong.

QUICK ACTIVITY

Shell of Strengths. Students draw their own shell and write three strengths inside it. Post them as a class 'Hero Wall'.

Torta immediately introduces himself. "I'm Torta, and I don't have a superpower. I'm just a plain ol' tortilla."
"Plain? No way!" Shredded Cheezy says. "Every tortilla has the foundation for greatness. Without you, there would be no burritos, tacos or enchiladas."



But that doesn't stop Torta's self-doubt. He doesn't know how to make any of those foods. "Why don't we team up? My superpower is happiness because life is always better being a little cheezy."

WHAT HAPPENS

Torta meets Shredded Cheezy and the two head into Snack Alley together. A small act of kindness turns a stranger into a teammate.

"Every adventure is better with a friend by your side."

Before You Read

1. What makes someone a good friend? List three qualities on the board.
2. Predict: what might Torta and Cheezy find in Snack Alley?

While You Read

1. How does Torta's face change once Cheezy shows up?
2. Who takes the first step toward friendship? What do they say or do?

After You Read

1. Why is it easier to be brave with a friend?
2. Tell about a time you welcomed someone new. How did it feel for both of you?
3. What would Snack Alley look like in our school? Who would you bring along?

WORD OF THE PAGE

Teamwork — working together toward the same goal. Where else in the story do you see teamwork?

QUICK ACTIVITY

Friendship Recipe. In pairs, write a recipe card for a good friend: ingredients (1 cup of listening...) and directions.



The ninja tilts his head. "Being strong isn't just about muscles. It's about not giving up. And since I'm all about strength, I'm coming with you."

Shredded Cheezy cheers.

WHAT HAPPENS

Black Bean Ninja joins Torta and Cheezy, bringing quick moves and an even bigger message: real strength is perseverance.

"Being strong isn't just about muscles. It's about not giving up."

Before You Read

1. What do you think of when you hear the word 'strong'?
2. Look at Black Bean Ninja. What powers do you predict?

While You Read

1. What does Black Bean Ninja say about strength?
2. How does the team change now that there are three heroes?

After You Read

1. Do you agree that not giving up is a kind of strength? Give an example.
2. Name something hard you kept trying until you got it. What kept you going?
3. Each hero brings something different. What would your hero bring to the team?

WORD OF THE PAGE

Perseverance — to keep trying even when something is hard.

QUICK ACTIVITY

Design Your Food Hero. Students invent a food-based hero, name it, draw it, and write one sentence about its superpower.

WRAP-UP, WRITING & EXTENSIONS

Whole-Book Discussion

1. How do Torta, Shredded Cheezy, and Black Bean Ninja each show courage in a different way?
2. What does this story say about being different? Do you agree?
3. Which hero would you want on your team at recess? Why?
4. The author says everyone can 'find a way.' What does that mean to you?

Writing Prompt

Write about a time you had to be brave. Who helped you? What happened next?

Cross-Curricular Extensions

Art	Draw your own food hero and design a comic-style logo for the team.
Health & Nutrition	Sort the story's characters into food groups and plan a balanced hero lunch.
Math	Use the food-truck quesadilla recipes to double or halve ingredient amounts.
Community	Write a thank-you note to someone in your school who never gives up.

STANDARDS & SCHOOL BOOKING

Standards Connections

Reading Literature	Ask and answer questions about key details; describe characters and how they respond to events.
Speaking & Listening	Participate in collaborative conversations; build on others' ideas and express thinking clearly.
Writing	Compose opinion and narrative responses with reasons and details.
Social & Emotional Learning	Self-awareness, empathy, perseverance, and friendship skills.

BOOK FAIR TIP

Print one guide per classroom and pair it with a 20-minute author read-aloud. Ask about school visits and food-truck tie-ins at captainquesadilla.com/contact.

BRING CAPTAIN QUESADILLA TO YOUR SCHOOL

Author visits, book fair appearances, and read-aloud assemblies are available. Recipes from the food truck make a tasty tie-in for family nights. Reach out through the Contact page to schedule a visit.

Class Notes