**Charles Goodnight Paintings**

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<tr>
<th>PAINTING TITLE</th>
<th>COMMENTARY</th>
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<td>No More Bullets</td>
<td>Charles Goodnight spent many years as a Texas Ranger and as part of the Frontier Regiment stationed in Texas before the Civil War before he became a cattleman and an entrepreneur. During this time, he encountered plenty of conflict, especially with Native American tribes who were unwilling to give up their territory peacefully to white settlers. Activity - Look at the painting carefully. Who do you think has “no more bullets?” Is there more than one interpretation? Make a prediction about what happens next after the moment captured in this painting.</td>
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<td>Finding Cynthia Ann Parker</td>
<td>Charles Goodnight was instrumental in the recovery of Cynthia Ann Parker, a white settler who had been captured by the Comanches as a young girl. After discovering a small Comanche encampment, he noticed an Indian woman with light hair and eyes. He later helped lead Rangers back to recapture her. The problem is that Cynthia Ann didn’t want to go back to white society. She wanted to stay with the Comanche family she had lived with for 24 years. She was forced to return to her white family where some say she died of a broken heart. Activity - The paintings all portray events that happened in Charles Goodnight’s life, so it’s easy to understand things from his point of view. What do you think Cynthia Ann Parker is thinking about at this moment? Are her thoughts and feelings similar or different from what Goodnight is experiencing? Explain.</td>
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| Old Blue            | Old Blue was Charles Goodnight’s lead steer for many cattle drives. The cowboys would lead Old Blue in a certain direction and the rest of the cattle would follow him. Old Blue became like a pet to the cowboys, and he lived out his older years on the JA Ranch.  

Activity - This painting is titled Old Blue. Turn this two-word title into a one-sentence caption that expresses what is happening in this picture. Be sure to include an action verb and descriptive phrase. |
| Horsehead Crossing  | Horsehead Crossing is a real place along the Pecos River in West Texas. This particular ford (a shallow place in the river) was very important to Charles Goodnight as well as other cattlemen and native people living in the area because it was the only source of fresh water within 75 miles. (The rest of the Pecos was briny or salty.) The crossing got its name from a legend that many Comanche horses had died crossing the Pecos because it was so wide and fast flowing.  

Activity - Based on this picture, what would you say is Goodnight’s relationship to his physical environment? How was the Pecos River both a natural resource and a natural hazard? |
| Giving Counsel      | In 1867, on their second cattle drive, Charles Goodnight’s partner, Oliver Loving, was anxious to ride ahead to Fort Sumner, New Mexico to secure the best price for the cattle. Goodnight knew the territory was dangerous and tried to talk Loving out of the trip. In the end, Loving and top cowhand “One-Armed” Bill Wilson rode ahead against Goodnight’s advice.  

Activity - Jump into this painting in your imagination. Use descriptive language to relate what’s happening.  
- Where did you land in the painting?  
- What do you see?  
- What do you hear?  
- What do you smell?  
- What do you feel on your skin?  
- What can you taste?  
How does “jumping” into this picture help you connect with what’s happening? |
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| A Promise Made, A Promise Kept         | As a result of his decision to ride ahead, Oliver Loving was wounded in an attack by a band of Comanche. He lived long enough for Charles Goodnight to get to his deathbed. Before he died, he asked Goodnight to return his body for burial in Texas - a request that Goodnight honored later that year.  
  
  Activity - Giving Counsel and A Promise Made, A Promise Kept tell a story of the relationship between Charles Goodnight and Oliver Loving. Explain the message the artist is trying to communicate about their friendship through the paintings. |
| Dash With Cash                         | In Dash with Cash, Charles Goodnight and several of his trusted cowboys are forced to take a dangerous walk through town with a wheelbarrow full of money when the bank refuses to let him deposit it.  
  
  Activity - (Combine with Gold Rush) |
| Gold Rush                              | In Gold Rush, Goodnight’s pack mule, loaded down with supplies and $12,000 worth of gold panics in a lightning storm. Goodnight chases it down. He manages to save the gold, but he loses all the supplies.  
  
  Activity - Charles Goodnight was a businessman and an entrepreneur. He made his profit by selling cattle. How do these two pictures convey the central idea that money was important to Goodnight? |
| Over the Edge                          | Charles Goodnight moved to Palo Duro Canyon in the Texas Panhandle in 1876 to set up a ranch with John Adair. Before he could build a house for himself and his wife, he had to move his supplies into the canyon - not an easy task as evidenced by the painting Over the Edge.  
  
  Activity - Building a ranch down in a canyon provided natural protection for the cattle. It also presented a problem to Charles Goodnight and his men. Look at the painting and explain how Goodnight found a solution to setting up a ranch on this type of landscape. |
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| Driven From The Palo Duro      | **Activity** - (Do the activity first for this picture.) Look at this picture. What do you see? What do you think is happening?  

Now listen to a description of the painting:  

*In the area of Palo Duro Canyon where he wanted to bring his cattle, Goodnight found 10,000 grazing bison. He devised a way to move the herd out of the valley.*  

Now that you have more information, did you adjust your thinking? What do you think Charles Goodnight is doing now that you have context for what's happening?  

Goodnight is actually shooting above the bison to start a stampede to move the animals away from the land he wants for his ranch. In just a few more years, the bison would be nearly extinct from overhunting (but not because of Goodnight). |
| Molly - First Lady of the Palo Duro Canyon | Charles Goodnight moved his wife Molly to their new home in the Palo Duro Canyon in about 1878. By this time, most of the great southern bison herd had been slaughtered. Molly rescued orphaned bison calves and urged Goodnight to try to rebuild the herd - which he did.  

**Activity** - Conservation was very important to Molly Goodnight. Without her influence, bison in North America might have gone extinct. Share ways that you can help contribute to the common good of your community through conservation or other means. |
| Quanah Parker                   | While living on the JA Ranch, Goodnight and Comanche Chief Quanah Parker (son of Cynthia Ann Parker who Goodnight helped recover in 1860) formed a treaty stating that in exchange for two cows every other day to feed his people, Parker and his braves would stop raiding cattle from the JA Ranch.  

**Activity** - Look at this picture of Quanah and consider his point of view. How do you think he might be feeling, and what do you think he might be thinking at this moment when he has to meet Goodnight to work out this treaty? |
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<td>A Good Idea Gone Bad</td>
<td>To reestablish the nearly extinct southern bison herd, Charles Goodnight raised a bull calf who he named Old Sikes. Just like Goodnight himself, Old Sikes was a little rough around the edges and made his own way in the world. In 1886, Goodnight decided it was time for Old Sikes to live on the JA Ranch full-time. Old Sikes, however, had different ideas. In the painting, A Good Idea Gone Bad, you can see exactly how he felt about Goodnight’s attempt to herd him back to the ranch. Activity - Think of a simile to describe Old Sikes in this picture. Think of a simile to describe Charles Goodnight in this picture. [Examples: Old Sikes was as angry as a _________. Old Sikes was as big as a __________. Old Sikes’s huge hooves sounded like _____________. Charles Goodnight rode as fast as _______________.]</td>
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