

“All Dried Out”



Nate Gould

Ten-years-old
Phoenix, Arizona

Ten-year-old Nate Gould fits the mold of an all-American boy. He is 4'3" from the tips of his toes to the top of his golden bowl cut. His dad shares his same name and his mom's name is Katie. Each morning, his parents drive him to school at Desert Trails Elementary School where he attends Mrs. Pratt's fifth grade class alongside his twin sister Maggie. He says Maggie is his really, really good friend, but not his best friend. His best friend is Ben, but he also hangs out with Shane, Sam, and Rolando. He is a really good student—he was on the Principal's List and honor roll, and received the 'Attitude is Everything' award in his class. Swimming is his favorite outdoor activity despite his sun-intimidated skin. Inside, he loves to build, disassemble, and then rebuild his Star Wars Lego sets, which hide in a Tupperware tub in his closet. The golden-plated soccer trophies in his room reveal he's been playing since first grade. Last season he played halfback on the All Stingers soccer team, and wore a yellow uniform that made him look like a bee. When he grows up, he wants to be a zoo keeper. He would probably import several rhinos because that is his favorite animal. One day, maybe when he grows up, he wants to go to China, so he could eat Chinese food and watch parades and firework displays. But until then, Nate is happy living in North Phoenix, watching Animal Planet regularly, playing with water guns in the pool, and just being a kid.