

## PRAISE FOR BRIAN P. CLEARY

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"It's a little like having Dr. Seuss or Shel Silverstein as grammar instructor: the combination of Cleary's punchy rhymes and Gable's illustrations make otherwise dry lessons in language palatable for young readers."

—**Columbus Parent** for *Words Are CATEGORICAL™*

"Cleary's energy and sunny choice of words make the book lively and delightfully bright."

—**Booklist** for *To Root, to Toot, to Parachute: What Is a Verb?*

"With their comical cartoon characters and Seussian rhymes, Cleary and Gable have already claimed their niche for providing grammar instruction in a clear, lighthearted manner."

—**School Library Journal** for *Pitch and Throw, Grasp and Know: What Is a Synonym?*

"The energy and sheer razzmatazz of the text and graphics will have young grammarians entranced."

—**School Library Journal** for *Dearly, Nearly, Insincerely: What Is an Adverb?*

"Certainly one of the least serious grammar lessons imaginable, this book will convince kids that nouns are everywhere."

—**Publishers Weekly** for *A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What Is a Noun?*

"If the Shel Silverstein volumes on the shelf are tattered from overuse, add this delightful new Brian Cleary book to the collection. . . . While not didactic, the volume offers sporadic definitions of literary devices/poetic types employed or illustrated in various poems."

—**Book Report** for *Rainbow Soup: Adventures in Poetry*

"A curricular dream. . . . Offers readaloud and recitation pleasures to even the most irreverent youngsters."

—**The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books** for *Rainbow Soup: Adventures in Poetry*

"Full of puns and silly jokes, Cleary here does for poetry what his *Words Are CATEGORICAL™* series does for grammar. . . . youngsters who may be intimidated by poetry may well warm up to its playful presentation here."

—**Publishers Weekly** for *Rainbow Soup: Adventures in Poetry*

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## ABOUT BRIAN'S SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

### Invite Brian P. Cleary to keynote at your next conference!

Educators will enjoy traveling with Brian as he takes a hilarious walk down memory lane, looking at his early education and influences as he grew from struggling reader to best-selling author. His insights will motivate teachers and librarians alike, as he recounts how he rose from an odd, quirky kid with a short attention span to an odd, quirky adult with a short attention span—but instilled with a love of language. Guaranteed to solicit laughs, his inspirational address will instill hope for anyone dealing with a struggling student.

To schedule a speaking engagement,  
contact Brian P. Cleary—phone 216-889-1799  
or e-mail [BabeRuth60@aol.com](mailto:BabeRuth60@aol.com)

### Have your school spend the day with Brian P. Cleary!

Presentations: 40 minutes each  
Workshops: 30 minutes each

Brian has kickstarted schools' writing programs from coast to coast, speaking to more than 80,000 students. Whether he's making a paper noun quilt with first graders, a verb train with third graders, or sensory poems with fourth and fifth graders, Brian can work with groups large or small to help them learn to play with language.

### ORDER INFO

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PUBLISHING GROUP

To order 800-328-4929  
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## MEET AUTHOR BRIAN P. CLEARY



“

Cleary has clearly got the formula down for effectively explaining a potentially boring subject through bouncy rhyming text filled with puns and jokes that will appeal to kids."

—**Kirkus Reviews** for *Dearly, Nearly, Insincerely: What Is an Adverb?*

**Lerner** ” ”  
PUBLISHING GROUP

# AUTHOR BIO

Born in Lakewood, Ohio, the third oldest of nine children, Brian P. Cleary grew up reading the bouncy rhymes of Dr. Seuss. A frustrated student and reluctant learner, Brian daydreamed from class to class until being introduced to poetry in third grade. Intrigued, he set on a course to explore the wonder of words.

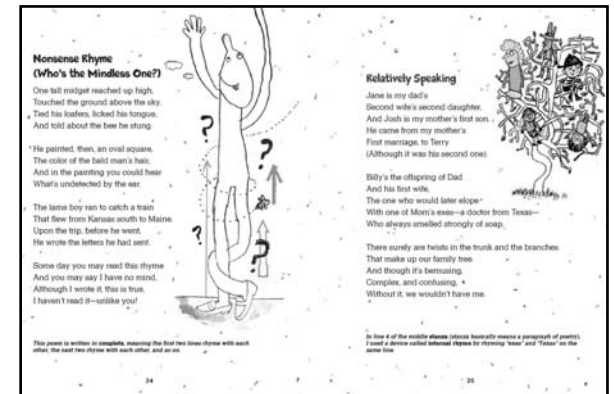
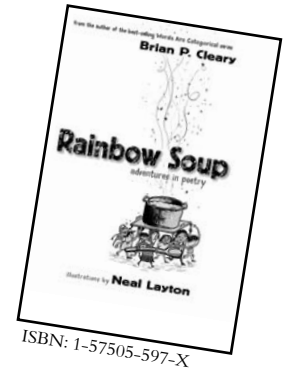
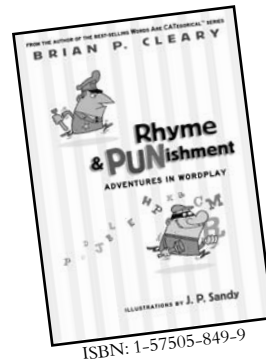
Brian began his professional creative endeavors early, when as a fifth grader he sold a joke to a radio station in Cleveland. He earned a degree in communications from John Carroll University, and is now senior editor of the humor staff for American Greetings, one of the five largest creative divisions in the world. In addition, he has written cartoon gags that have appeared in more than 600 newspapers worldwide, published humor essays for national and local magazines and newspapers, and created many children's books, including the popular titles in his Words Are CATegorical™ series, which has sold more than 1 million copies.

As a humorist, writer, and poet, Brian P. Cleary shows kids how to play with words. He believes that humor is not only a fun way to learn, but an effective way to teach. His best-selling Words Are CATegorical™ series, which introduces young readers to different types of words through rhyming verse and illustrations of comical cartoon cats, has been compared to the likes of Dr. Seuss, while his books of poetry and puns have been honored alongside the works of Roald Dahl and Shel Silverstein. Fondly known as the "word nerd," Brian lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

# More than 1 Million Copies of Brian P. Cleary Titles in Print!

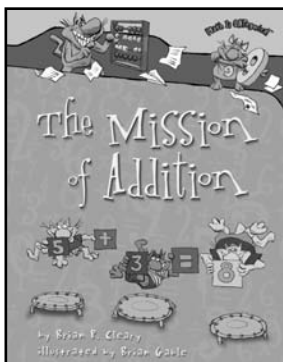
Brian's books are regularly honored with awards such as:

- Children's Book Council (CBC) / International Reading Association (IRA) Children's Choice Award
- American Bookseller Association (ABA) American Bookseller Kids' Pick of the Lists
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- National Council of Teacher's of English (NCTE) Notable Children's Book in the Language Arts
- Children's Book Committee at Bank Street College Best Children's Book of the Year
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## Words Are CATegorical™

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