



Abuelo

Arthur Dorros , Raúl Colón (illustrator)

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Together, a young boy and his *abuelo* (grandfather) go camping, ride horses, and even confront a mountain lion. Soon, the boy's family moves to the city from the country, away from Abuelo, and it is the boy's memories that help him adjust to his new life.

Arthur Dorros's skillful blend of Spanish and English and Raúl Colón's poignant paintings illuminate how the special bond between an *abuelo* and a *nieto* (grandson) reaches across miles. Fans of Dorros's *Papá and Me* and *Abuela* will delight in this bilingual and multigenerational picture book about a special family relationship.

This strong Common Core title features the following important strands and standards: Determine new word meaning; English/Spanish vocabulary; strong picture support.

Abuelo Details

Date : Published April 22nd 2014 by HarperCollins

ISBN : 9780061686276

Author : Arthur Dorros , Raúl Colón (illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Family, Cultural, European Literature, Spanish Literature

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From Reader Review Abuelo for online ebook

Sarah says

Very simple storyline. Nice illustrations. I enjoyed the use of Spanish to bring in some of the young boy's culture.

This is one of my picture book selections.

Celeste says

"Abuelo" by Arthur Dorros

Copyright: 2014

Award: Americas Award

Genre: Realistic Fiction. This book was inspired by the true lives of people living in rural Argentina. The story uses made up characters in real places and illustrates those locations.

Target Audience: Primary, grades PreK to 2nd grade. Students in these grades will love the colorful illustrations and the depictions of rural and urban life. They will connect the characters to themselves and their grandparents (or figures in their lives who are like a grandparent).

Text to Text: "Strega Nona" by Tomie dePaulo. This connection might seem like a stretch, but it was the first book I thought of when I read "Abuelo". I read "Strega Nona" as a child so many times that our family copy had to be replaced. She always reminded me of my grandmother, who was always sure to make sure we had full bellies whenever we visited. "Abuelo" reminded me of "Strega Nona" because I have a strong connection to the character Strega Nona and I can see how the young boy in the story has a strong connection to his grandfather.

Text to Self: This story reminded me of my grandfather. He lives in a small, rural town in Nebraska. When I was little, he had a farm and I used to ride with him in his tractor as he finished his work, or rode with him in his old pick up truck to check on the cows. I connected those memories to the time the main character spends with his abuelo, especially when they go horseback riding over the plains.

Text to World: This book has a built in connection to rural Argentina. The story is set there and it shows the differences between life on a ranch and life in a city. This book could be used to compare life in Argentina and life in Nebraska. It could also be used to show Argentinian culture, agriculture and city experiences.

Emily Krafciik says

This was a great story with beautiful illustrations and an important message for young children to learn! This story encompasses the important relationship between an grandfather and grandson because sometimes grandpa's only teach certain lessons. Like abuelo teaching the young boy how to stand tall like a tree to scare away the mountain lion, which later came in handy when he had to stand up to the bully in his new school. It is important for children to know that just because someone is not physically with you in the moment, it does not mean that are not with you on the inside. The image on the last page is so beautiful because abuelo and

the young boy are riding together, just in the ways that their environment allows. A beautiful story with the perfect incorporation of Spanish!

Alyson (Kid Lit Frenzy) says

A wonderful story about a boy and his grandfather. A good use of Spanish terms and phrases.

Kylie Moffat says

I really liked this book because it talked about all the things that his abuelo taught him. I read it for my diverse book and it really showed Hispanic culture and the words in Spanish as well as English.

June says

One of the better grandfather picture books I have come across that might work with a story time crowd, though mine might be a little young. Also, Hispanic possibilities.

Kylee Vaske says

Multicultural Picture Book #1

Copyright Date: 2014

Target Audience: Primary Grades

Genre: Abuelo is a Realistic Fiction book because it is a made-up story that could occur in real life. This book could occur in real life because it is about a boy who rides a horse with his grandfather. Towards the end of the book, the boy moves to the city away from his grandfather, but realizes the city isn't all that bad and that his grandfather is always with him in spirit.

Text-to-Self Connection: In Abuelo, the grandfather teaches the boy many things, including how to use his poncho to make a shelter if it rained, how to guide a horse, and how to stand tall and strong if they ran into a mountain lion. Like the grandfather in Abuelo, my grandfather taught me many things, including how to tie knots and how to properly feed the cattle. Also, when I was about the age of the boy in Abuelo, my grandfather lived on a farm just like the boy's grandfather did in the book.

Text-to-Text Connection: Grandpa's Garden by Stella Fry is the text-to-text connection I made for Abuelo. I made a connection between these two books because both of the books are about a little boy and his grandfather. Also, I made a connection because, in both of the books, the grandfather teaches his grandson multiple lessons. For example, in Grandpa's Garden, the grandfather teaches his grandson each step of planting a garden, including spreading compost on the soil. Also, as I mentioned in my text-to-self connection, in Abuelo, the grandfather teaches his grandson multiple lessons, such as how to use his poncho

to make a shelter if it rained.

Text-to-World Connection: The text-to-world connection I made regarding Abuelo included my connection to farmers. There are many farmers in the world who grow food for people to eat. In Abuelo, the grandfather lived on a farm, and on a page of the book it showed chickens on his farm. I connected this book to the many farms in the world that raise chickens for meat. I can specifically relate this to the multiple chicken farms I see when I travel.

Allison Ternes says

This is a great story about a boy riding his horse with his grandfather in the dessert. Then he has to move to the city and shows him transitioning to the new town. This book even has some spanish words that you can practice with your students.

Edward Sullivan says

A young boy learns from his abuelo the ways of the gaucho in South America and remembers those lessons the rest of his life. A poignant grandfather-grandson story with warm, appealing illustrations by Raul Colon.

Joan says

With the author and illustrator of this book both being known, this book will get a good amount of interest. Colon's illustrations are gorgeous! The story is one that could be used for kids who are moving away from family or just as an introduction to another way of life. The story is simple but limps just a bit since the grandfather - abuelo - is presented as saying Spanish phrases then immediately translating them. So the book could be used as an introduction to Spanish as well. However, since so many phrases are translated, it does slow down the story some, even as skillful as Dorros is. It basically is a little boy's memories of special times spent with his grandfather and the lessons that Abuelo taught him, including of course, that he can live away from Abuelo and keep him alive in his memories. This is not a death of a relative story but very close since moving away from someone who has been part of your regular life is a sort of death when you are young. Abuelo's lessons come in handy when the bully in the new place tries to threaten him. He shows the bully that he is stronger than he looks, not in an actual fight but in how he answers back the bully and makes it clear he isn't backing down to a bully. I don't see this as winning the Belpre, but I hope I'm wrong.

Sarah Hannah says

"Skillful blend of Spanish and English"? In what world is Google Translate skillful? All the guy does is write sentences in English and then pick one word to repeat, not replace, in Spanish. That's not blend, that's just white people thinking that italics (with a bonus, because this one italicizes AND puts in quotation marks, just to really drive home the idea that Spanish is wildly foreign and weird compared to English) make a book culturally sensitive or something.

Raul's illustrations are beautiful because that's what he does, but the writing? Feh.

Marianne says

Colon's illustrations create both intimacy and vastness. And I liked the story a lot.

Heather says

A gorgeously illustrated book about a boy and his Abuelo (grandfather) who spend time together riding through La Pampa (plains) of their South American country (presumably Argentina). When the boy moves to the city, he finds ways to take with him the lessons his Abuelo taught him. This book would work well as a read-aloud for a Grandparent Appreciation story-time or for a child who is apprehensive about moving .

Kristine Hansen says

Everybody should have as awesome an abuelo as this. I love what a strong and vibrant man he is. I love the lessons he teaches. This book goes on the favorites shelf. :D

Kaitlin Harthoorn says

Multicultural Picture Book #3: Abuelo by Arthur Dorros

Target Audience: Primary elementary

Genre: The genre of this book is realistic fiction because the author writes a story with made-up characters in a story line that could realistically take place.

Text-to-Self: I connected this book to myself because in the book, the boy moves away from his grandpa and the country to the city. In his new life, the boy remembers his memories with his grandfather to help him adjust to city life. I can relate to this because I have always been close to my grandparents and it was hard to say goodbye when my family moved to Malawi. However, I agree with the boy that it helped to remember fun memories that I had shared with my grandparents and other family members as well as looking at pictures in the scrapbooks.

Text-to-Text: I connected the book Abuelo to a book called Mango, Abuela, and Me by Meg Medina because both books are about children who form valuable memories with their grandparents. Children will love reading about the strong bond between the children and their loving grandparents. I like how the authors of both books depict the grandchild-grandparent relationship in a positive light. They show how grandparents can teach their grandchildren new things and also how grandchildren can show their grandparents a different view on modern life.

Text-to-World: I connected this book to the world because children all over the world can connect to the story in their relationships with their grandparents. I feel like after reading this book, children will make

more of an effort to spend quality time with their grandparents. For children who live far away from their grandparents, this book will show them that they can hold onto the memories that they have made with their grandparents.
