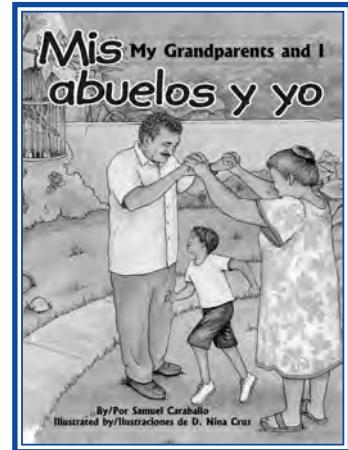


# *Mis abuelos y yo / My Grandparents and I*

by Samuel Caraballo

A child describes his grandparents and the many things they do together. He compares his grandparents to a bouquet, to music, and to treasure, using metaphors. Then he tells about the places they go, the things they eat, things they see, what they do to pass the time, and how they spend the seasons of the year.



## TEACHING OVERVIEW

Written as poetry, the book rhymes in Spanish and in English. Metaphors are used in describing the grandparents. The book could be used in a poetry unit on rhyming words or in units on the family or seasons.

## COMPREHENSION STRATEGIES

### BEFORE READING

PK-K: Ask children to share some of the activities they enjoy doing with their grandparents. Have them draw pictures showing those activities. Teach or review the seasons and the characteristics of each. Show the pictures of the book to the students and have them tell what they think is happening in each picture.

Gr. 1 – Gr. 3: Have the students write journal entries about things they enjoy doing with their grandparents. Let volunteers share their entries with the

class. Then review the seasons of the year by listing them on the board. Ask students to name the types of activities they do in each season. Write these on the board under the name of the season. Show students the book and tell them you will be reading a book in which a child describes the many things he enjoys doing with his grandparents. Ask students to listen to find out if the child in the book does any of the same things they do with their grandparents.

### AS READING PROGRESSES

PK – K: Read the book aloud and stop to discuss the pictures and any unfamiliar words. From time to time, stop and ask the students if they do the same thing with their grandparents as this little boy does.

Gr. 1 – Gr. 3: Read the book through and explain the meanings of any unfamiliar words. Students should be listening to see which activities mentioned are ones they also do with their grandparents.

### AFTER READING

PK – K: Ask the students if they can remember what the boy does with his grandparents. List these responses on the board. Ask the students: What do they do in the spring? What do they do in the summer? What do they do in the autumn? What do they do at Christmas? Note that Christmas is a winter holiday. Allow students to share which of the activities mentioned in the book are ones they wish they could do with their grandparents. Reread the book and listen for rhyming words.

Gr. 1 – Gr. 3: Allow students to share which activities mentioned in the book are ones they have also done with their grandparents. Ask comprehension questions such as: In which season do they play in the water hose? When do they play in the sand? When do they listen to the singing of cardinals? What do they do on the weekends? What do they do at Christmas? How do you think the grandparents feel when they are spending time with their grandson? Then reread the book and have students listen for rhyming words.

In the Classroom

## OTHER FOLLOW-UP/EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

1. Celebrate Grandparents Day by having students write their grandparents a letter. (Grandparents Day is in September each year.)
  2. Tell the students what you, the teacher, used to do with your grandparents. Allow an older person to share what they did with their grandparents. Discuss how things have changed over the years.
  3. Have each child create a page about his or her grandparents. They can write a sentence or two and illustrate it. Then collect the papers and compile into a class book called *What We Do With Our Grandparents*, or another title of your choosing. Display the book and allow students to read it during their free time.
  4. List the rhyming words from the book on the board.
- Have students add more words to each list.
  5. Present the book as a choral reading. Have the entire class memorize the first and last pages and say them in unison. For the other pages, assign two or three students to read in unison.
  6. Have a celebration with grandparents visiting the classroom. Serve banana pudding, frosted cake, and jello.
  7. Make banana pudding in the classroom.
  8. Make four posters, one for each season. Have students cut out magazine pictures or draw pictures to paste on each poster.
  9. Fly kites.
  10. Learn facts about cardinals.

### CONNECTING WITH THE INTERNET/TECHNOLOGY

#### Grandparents

<http://www.grandparents-day.com/>  
<http://www.cyberparent.com/gran/>  
<http://www.grandparentsonline.net/>  
<http://www.aarp.org/grandparents/>  
<http://www.ext.nodak.edu/extpubs/yf/famsci/fs548w.htm>  
<http://www.grandparents-day.net/>  
<http://www.grandparents.net/>  
<http://www.annieshomepage.com/grandparentsday.html>

#### The Seasons

<http://csep10.phys.utk.edu/astr161/lect/time/seasons.html>  
<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/miller/Seasons.htm>  
<http://www.eduplace.com/ss/act/seasons.html>

#### Cardinals

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/birds/printouts/Cardinalprintout.shtml>

#### Banana Pudding

<http://www.texascooking.com/features/apr99bestbanana.htm>

### VOCABULARY

auditorium	gelatin
bait	horizon
bouquet	jasmine
cache	leisurely
cardinal	recital
cruise lines	stingray
custard	stroll
dune	tint
fortress	treasured
freighters	unity
frolic	universe
frosty	verse
gaiety	



### About the Author

**Samuel Caraballo** was born in Vieques, a gorgeous, tiny island off the East Coast of Puerto Rico. He spent many of his childhood days playing in the countryside hills and picking mango and guavas, his favorite tropical fruits. He has served as an interpreter for the courts for cases involving Hispanics. He has also dedicated many years to teaching Spanish in several public schools in the United States. He presently lives in Virginia with his family. He loves painting, fishing, and writing poetry. He is the author of two bilingual picture books for children, *Estrellita se despide de su isla*/*Estrellita Says Good-bye to Her Island* (Piñata Books, 2002) and *Mis abuelos y yo*/*My Grandparents and I* (Piñata Books, 2004.)

### OTHER BILINGUAL CHILDREN'S BOOKS BY SAMUEL CARABALLO

*Estrellita se despide de su isla / Estrellita Says Good-bye to Her Island*  
ISBN 1-55885-338-3, \$14.95

*Mis abuelos y yo / My Grandparents and I*  
ISBN 1-55885-407-X, \$14.95

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