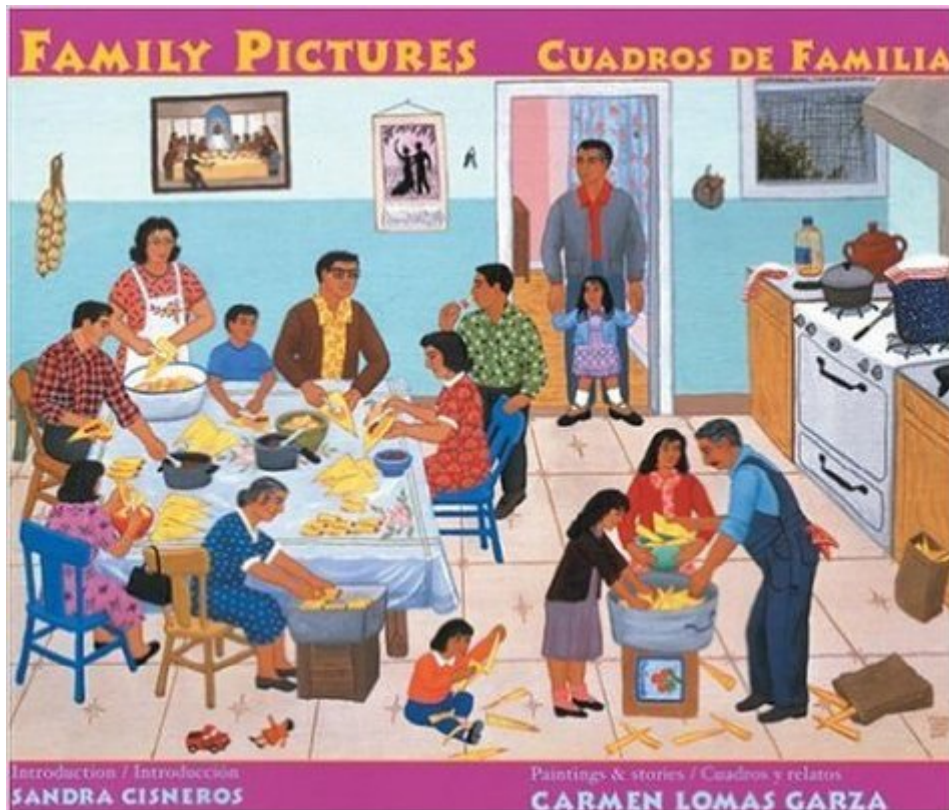


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# Family Pictures, 15th Anniversary Edition / Cuadros De Familia, Edici3n Quincea±era



## Synopsis

Family Pictures is the story of Carmen Lomas Garza's girlhood: celebrating birthdays, making tamales, finding a hammerhead shark on the beach, picking cactus, going to a fair in Mexico, and confiding to her sister her dreams of becoming an artist. These day-to-day experiences are told through fourteen vignettes of art and a descriptive narrative, each focusing on a different aspect of traditional Mexican American culture. The English-Spanish text and vivid illustrations reflect the author's strong sense of family and community. For Mexican Americans, Carmen Lomas Garza offers a book that reflects their lives and traditions. For others, this work offers insights into a beautifully rich community.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD790L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Children's Book Press; 15th anniversary edition (March 10, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 089239207X

ISBN-13: 978-0892392070

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 11.5 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #40,779 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #77 in Â Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural #100 in Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Foreign Language Learning > Spanish

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

This book is a must have for ALL classrooms, but especially Bilingual and Dual Language Classrooms! I use it all year long! My students LOVE it so much that I bought them each their own copy for DÃ-a del niÃ o this year. We use it as a writing prompt, they connect text to self and compare and contrast. The illustrations are beautiful. This year we used it for our yearly diorama project. Instead of the children choosing random books to do a diorama on, they chose the cuadro that most spoke to them and their family experience, and did their diorama on that. They also did a

beautiful piece of polished writing comparing a family memory with that cuadro. This is my favorite book to use in the classroom, and many adults love to receive it as a gift as well. It brings back beautiful memories to all ages. This is truly a treasure. I cannot recommend it highly enough! It is also great to leave for a substitute because it is bilingual and you know you cannot count on all substitutes speaking Spanish! The students never get tired of reading it or writing about it! A MUST BUY!

I like it because the illustrations are great because the family is together. I like how she is an author and illustrator and I also liked that family pictures is her favorite book. I like her writing because it is clear and good and there are no mistakes. I recommend this book to other kids.

I was able to use this book in my classroom to launch a unit on family traditions. My students were very intrigued by the different family traditions in Texas and Mexico, as they are from New Orleans. The illustrations were beautiful. The text itself is a little bit on the lower end in terms of reading level. I wish there were more stories rather than expository descriptions of each page.

We bought another book from Children's Book Press (now Lee & Low Books) that we absolutely love, and along with it came a catalog of their other books. My 2 year old son loved to look through the catalog, and would point to certain book covers with his own description of what he thought the book was about. He would always point to this book and say, "Eat, mama, eat!" (Eating is one of his favorite activities, as is evident by his size. Or more like we have a huge, monster hulk child who loves food.) Anyway, he would look at this tiny photo in this catalog almost every day and talk about the people eating, so a few months ago I decided to buy the book for him as a reward for good behavior. It's one of his favorite books. He loves studying the detailed illustrations and often wants me to read the stories to him. I love that the book is bilingual, even though we aren't teaching him Spanish. If I'm not reading the book to him, I will catch him on a daily basis with the book in hand, flipping through the pages and looking for the scenes where people are eating or preparing food. Beautiful illustrations and makes a good gift for young kids.

Family Pictures is an excellent example of an autobiographical as well as multicultural book written for children from kindergarten through fourth grade. Lomas Garza covers a short period of her own childhood and the social life and customs of Hispanic Americans. The reader's attention is held by the detailed illustrations done in a variety of materials including oil on canvas, acrylic on canvas, and gouache on arches paper. While children will be drawn by the wonderful paintings, they will be

learning a great deal about the Hispanic culture.

These books are great. They are bilingual (Spanish/English), collections of short memoirs from the author's experience. I have used these books for a variety of purposes, including as mentor texts with both young children and adults who are learning to write in both languages. They are uniquely American.

We read this book frequently. My 5 year old is fascinated by the short stories on each page. The author brings you into the scene with her art and the simple narration. We are working with Spanish as a second language. We read the English and then the Spanish. It reinforces the vocabulary that she know and exposes her to more.

I used this book, along with In My Family/En Mi Familia, during a personal narrative writing unit when student-teaching third grade at a Spanish/English bilingual school. The majority of the children were immigrants from Mexico and they found these books engaging and easy to relate to. I think it was powerful for them to see experiences like their own in a published format. We studied the way the author described small events from her life, then the students each wrote three short personal narratives based on small events from their lives. Finally they each chose one piece, translated it so that it was in both English and Spanish (like the mentor texts), and illustrated it. Then we bound all of the stories together into one book and made a photocopy of the book for each student. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the work they'd done and they really felt like published authors at the end.

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