# Margaret and Margarita

Lynn Reiser 1993 New York, Mulberry Books

COURAGE

CONCEPTS

Courage Respect SUMMARY

Two young girls, Margaret and Margarita, meet in the park. One speaks English and the other Spanish. Both show courage by introducing themselves to each other with "Hello!" and "Hola!" Playing together while communicating in both languages, they quickly become friends. With bright watercolors and bilingual dialogue printed in pink and blue, the author/illustrator has created a joyous story of friendship. "Ole!" and "Hurrah!" for Margaret and Margarita.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Children will learn that courage can be shown in everyday situations such as making new friends. They will be encouraged to respect similarities as well as differences in others.

### Circle Time (in the Heartwood Circle)

#### Margaret and Margarita

#### PREVIEW

- Teach children to say "hello," "good-bye," and "friends" in Spanish. If friends are girls, say "amigas," boys or boys and girls, say "amigos."
- Ask children to find COURAGE on the Heartwood attribute poster.
- 3. Show pages of the book and explain that one girl speaks English and the other speaks Spanish. Ask children why they think the two girls can still be friends.

4. Show items in the Prop Box, such as stuffed toy animals, hair bows, adult dress-up clothes, handbags, and a copy of Margaret and Margarita.

#### READING

- Read interactively, with children repeating some of the Spanish words after you pronounce them.
- Ask children to bring stuffed toy animals to school to use during interactive rereading of parts of the story.

### After the Story

DISCUSSION

How are Margaret and Margarita alike and different? Why do you think it took courage for them to say hello to each other? How do you make a new friend? How do you show courage?

# After the Story (cont.)

#### ACTIVITIES

- 1. Teach "hello" in different languages.\*
- 2. Prepare a "Welcome Bag" to have ready for new children who might join your class. Encourage your class to contribute items they think would help a new child feel welcome, such as a box of crayons, Heartwood journal, and a name card. Role-play actions they might take to welcome a new classmate. If and when a new child arrives, present the "Welcome Bag" and make a new one. Keep a camera handy to take a class photograph including the new classmate.
- 3. Locate Spanish-speaking countries on the Heartwood Map Mat. (Keyword: Spanish-speaking countries

#### WRAP-UP

- 1. Invite children from another class for a "Make a New Friend" activity period. In pairs, have children play get acquainted games\* and then have a snack together.
- 2. In My Heartwood Journal, ask children to draw pictures of themselves and a new friend. Record children's thoughts about what they drew.

#### **EXTENSION**

Children complete the Home Connection Page and teachers record their responses. Send these pages home to children's families.

### **Expressive Arts**

#### DRAMA/LANGUAGE

- 1. Prop Box: Use items in the box for retelling and acting out the story or for small group creative play.
- 2. Mini-Manners Plays\*: With finger puppets, model making introductions and/or giving compliments. For example:

Puppet I: Hi!

Puppet 1: I like your blue shoes.

Puppet 2: Hi!

Puppet 2: Thank you. I like your hat.

Puppet I: My name is Jon.

Puppet I: Thank you.

Puppet 2: My name is Brandon.
Puppet I: I'm glad to meet you.

Puppet 2: Glad to meet you too!

Note: Perform mini-plays using Spanish words. For example:

Puppet I: Hola!

Puppet I: Me gustan tus zapatos.

Puppet 2: Hola!

Puppet 2: Gracias!

Puppet L. Mallana

Puppet I: Me llamo Carla.

Puppet 2: Me llamo Thomas.

3. Teach children to sign the word "friends."

#### ART

- 1. Work together to make a friendship bulletin board similar to the picture at the beginning of the book. Give each child a paper doll to color and place around a paper "world."
- 2. Make "friendship collages" using a variety of materials such as ribbon, yarn, cloth or paper scraps, buttons, lace, and pipe cleaners. Directions: "With a partner choose 10 objects from the basket of materials. Glue objects onto a square of cardboard." Write partners' names on the collages. Display and provide opportunities for children to talk about their cooperative art.

#### MUSIC/MOVEMENT

- 1. Children sing "get acquainted" songs you create or find online. (Keyword: friendship songs, kids)
- 2. Listen to Globalullabies by Freyda during rest time.

\*Visit www.heartwoodethics.org and choose Resources, Pre-K/K for additional vignettes, downloadable paper doll pattern, "hello" in many languages, sign language, and links to other "get acquainted" songs and games.