

Book Title: A Spoon for Every Bite / Una Cuchara Para Cada Bocado

Author: Joe Hayes

Introduction

Begin by asking students:

- What do you usually eat with? A spoon, a fork?
- How often do you change utensils while you're eating?
- What if you used a new spoon for every bite of food? What would that say about you?

Explain that this story is about a rich man who brags about his wealth and the clever response his neighbors give back to him.

Read and Discuss

Since this book is written in both English and Spanish, it might be nice to have a student or parent who reads Spanish read the book beside you as you read.

Introduce vocabulary: compadre, scarcely, squandered

Possible discussion questions:

- Why do you think the wealthy man brags about his spoons?
- How do the poor people respond to what he says?
- What lesson does the wealthy man learn at the end of the story?
- Who is happier - the rich man, or the poor couple?
- What do you think this fairy tale is trying to teach us?

Activity

Design your own spoon

Imagine you were like the poor couple, with only one spoon to use day after day. What would you want that spoon to look like? What would you want it to say about you?

Explain that the objects we have often reflect what we value. Today, we will design spoons that show what is important to us.

Hand out slips of paper and have students design a spoon. Students create the size, design, colors, etc. They can be decorated with words, colors, pictures, or anything students choose to represent themselves.