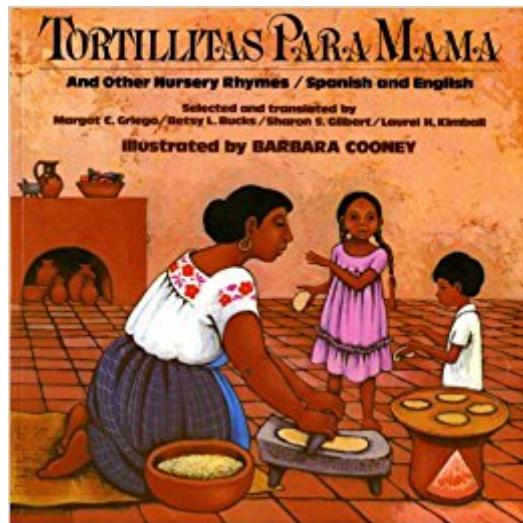


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# Tortillitas Para MamÃi And Other Nursery Rhymes (Bilingual Edition In Spanish And English)



## **Synopsis**

Young children will treasure this collection of Latin American nursery rhymes. Preserved through oral tradition, these rhymes have been passed on from generation to generation. They have been lovingly gathered and translated for this book and many are accompanied by instructions for finger play. Illuminated by the beautiful paintings of Barbara Cooney, they are now available for a whole new audience to enjoy.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; Bilingual edition (January 15, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805003177

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Product Dimensions: 2.5 x 0.1 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #53,414 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America #76 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Nursery Rhymes #135 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Foreign Language Learning > Spanish

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

A few reviewers have blasted this book for a couple of verses that contain ideas no longer acceptable in our society- like the Dad getting the good tortillas and the Mother the burnt ones. I agree that this is something to consider. I want to add, though, that my Mother read to me from this book when I was a child and it in no way ingrained these ideas into my young mind. As a young girl, in fact, this was one of my favorite books. Many of the other verses in *Tortillas para mama* are so beautiful that I think it would be a shame not to recommend it. There is one about the moon eating prickly pears (ahi viene la luna comiendo tuna) and another about a mother being an angel that I can recite to this day. If you are concerned about the questionable lines (and I reiterate that there are only a couple!), I would suggest you either leave those poems out when you read or else talk to your children about what those lines mean and how things have changed since they were written. It

might end up being very constructive!

I am a Kindergarten teacher and the kids in my class love this book. It presents the Spanish language and culture in such an accessible and engaging way -- the pictures are great! A lot of my English speaking students were interested in learning Spanish. I was amazed at how quickly both Spanish and English speakers picked up the language when I used chants and music in the classroom. It's magic!

It seems like many people reviewing this book have been offended by a few lines and are upset that the rhymes and songs in this book don't live up to our modern cultural expectations. One has to expect that folk songs and rhymes coming from a different time and culture are going to contain ideas that simply are not politically correct. However offensive to us, these traditional verses give us insight into the culture of that time and can provide a springboard for conversation about important issues. If you do not feel that your child is ready for this type of conversation, simply leave out the verses that offend you. I really think that there are only about two or three lines in the entire book that might cause offense. Additionally, we have so many nursery rhymes and folk tales that we learned in our own childhood that do not align with our modern values and yet didn't seem to cause lifelong damage for most of us (think "Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater" or any of the Uncle Remus stories). Questionable lines aside, this book is beautifully illustrated and includes engaging rhymes that will help your child build vocabulary and phonemic awareness.

A nice addition to our Spanish language library. My toddler has loved this since 18 months old. A great bedtime book as the illustrations are detailed, calming and keep him interested. We do hand motions with the rhymes and my child even asks to read this book by clapping his hands (in the motion of making tortillas). My only complaint is that some of the rhymes have not been updated to reflect today's society. One rhyme goes something like, ". . . if I get my dress dirty, Mother will beat me". I've made up my own endings for these.

I was born and raised in Central America and was searching for books that I could read to my daughter, that I could relate too. This book hit the spot! I love it because I have been able to share with my daughter rhymes that I heard my grandmother and mother say to me, that I had forgotten. My daughter is now 7 and we have memorized them and enjoy reciting them to each other in Spanish. There is one rhyme that is a little harsh, however, one must remember that these rhymes

have been passed down from one generation to another, just like the Mother Goose rhymes, and unfortunately, this one particular rhyme gets lost in translation and sounds horrible in English. The Spanish language is a beautiful language and very rarely do the words translate into English very well, so please don't take it to seriously. So if you are looking to share your culture with your child or learn about another culture, this book should do the job. The bottom line is...we love it!

I am an education student and a parent, I purchased this book for a school project on multi-cultural literature. When I received it I was horrified at some of the poems!!! Many of the poems in this book demean women. One poem entitled "Chiquita Bonita" says that if a girl gets her clothing dirty her mother will beat her, another poem "Little Tortillas" says that the good tortillas go to papa and the burnt ones go to mama. I am all for the concept of introducing small children to many cultures and having two languages in one book but there are many books out there that do it much better than this one. (May I suggest Salsa by Lillian Colon-Vila and Roberta Collier-Morales) Tortillas Para Mama presents a very negative view of Hispanic culture and I am not quite sure how it ever got published reading it leaves a bad taste in my mouth.

.The items is as expected. I would definitely refer to family and friends for purchase. The book is very good

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