



The Barking Mouse— A Story from Cuba

CURRICULUM IDEAS for parents and teachers

Math

- How high could the fence have been? Research how high cats can jump.
- Could the cat have eaten all four mice? Research how much a cat's stomach can hold and compare that area to the amount of space four mice take up.

Reading

- Read "The Big Meow" by Elizabeth Spire. Compare it to this story.
- Read other cat and mouse stories.
- Read other stories of bravery.

Writing

- How would Señor Gato tell this story? Write it from his perspective.
- Make a list of other cat and mouse stories.
- Write a story using some of the Spanish words you learned.

Science

- Study cats or mice.
- Cook something Cuban. Visit www.icuban.com/3guys/food.html for recipes.

Geography

- Find Cuba on a map.
- Decide where you would want to live in Cuba if you were moving there. Why?

Music

- Listen to Cuban music.
- Watch a video with salsa/merengue dancing. Try to dance along!

Art

- Make maracas or tropical birds (directions at www.nccusa.org/onlinebooks/achildsglimpseofcuba/act4.html or [act5.html](http://www.nccusa.org/onlinebooks/achildsglimpseofcuba/act5.html)).
- Study Cuban artists Alberto Godoy (www.albertogodoy.com) or Dania Sierra (www.sierrafineart.com) and try art in their styles.
- Make a yarn doll. Many Cuban children enjoy homemade toys like yarn dolls.

Culture

- Try a Cuban meal.
- Play "The Hawk and the Chickens" (directions at www.nccusa.org/onlinebooks/achildsglimpseofcuba/act7.html).

Treasure Bearer

- Practice your courage by choosing not to worry about something out of your control.
- Be bold enough to not do something that is wrong, even if your friends do it.
- Practice your courage by trying something new.