# The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Community, Food, Celebrations, Latino

Culture

Book Brief: Animals help the farm maiden cook up a special recipe. While the pot simmers, the

friends dance and sing together.

**Author:** 

Samantha R. Vamos

**Illustrator:** 

Rafael López





## TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Ask if children have tried rice pudding or arroz con leche. Explain that it's a traditional dish in many Latin American countries and that this book tells the story of a community of animals and farmers who make this dish to share.

## **RELATED ACTIVITIES**

#### **GROWING RICE (AGES 5-12)**

Materials: chess- or checkerboard, uncooked rice

Have students place one grain on the first square, two on the second square, four on the third square, etc. Students will keep doubling the number of grains for each new square. Have students predict how many grains they will have at the end of each row and on the last square. Talk about exponential growth and explain that it happens in nature, like with the spread of an illness.

#### MICROWAVE ARROZ CON LECHE (ALL AGES)

Here is a simple arroz con leche recipe that can be made in the microwave: www.pbskids. org/buster/recipes/fl\_miami\_rec.html. (Substitute non-dairy milk if any children have dairy allergies.) Have students measure the

as a group.

ingredients and make this

### **COMMUNITY MURAL (ALL AGES)**

Rafael López illustrates books and paints community murals. You can see the mural work he's done online at www.rafaellopez.com/ #/murals. Have children work in small groups to think of an idea for a community mural at the community center or around town. Where would they paint the mural? What would it show? Why? Have them sketch their idea on graph

paper. Older children can practice scaling the

drawing on a large sheet



of butcher paper: www.murals.com/scaling.html.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

#### OTHER BOOKS ILLUSTRATED BY RAFAEL LÓPEZ

My Name Is Celia/Me Llamo Celia, Monica Brown (2004), Our California, Pam Muñoz Ryan (2008), Tito Puente, Mambo King/Tito Puente, Rey del Mambo, Monica Brown (2013).

