

Too Many Tamales

A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Latino Culture, Holidays, Family, Honesty

Grade Level: K to 3rd grade

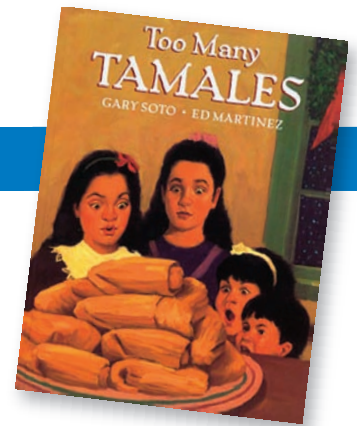
Book Brief: Maria and her cousins put their stomachs to the test to find her mom's lost wedding ring.

Author:

Gary Soto

Illustrator:

Ed Martinez



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Tell the kids this is a story about a special family tradition but *also* about the importance of following directions and telling the truth. Do the children have any special foods they eat only on certain holidays? What are their favorites?

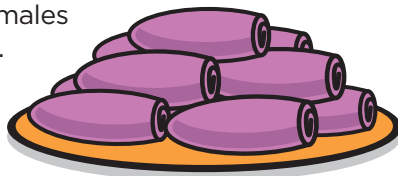
RELATED ACTIVITIES

FIND THE RING (AGES 5-12)

Materials: play dough (2 c. flour, 1 c. salt, 1 tbsp. oil, 1 c. water, 2 drops of food coloring), small plastic ring

Have some fun making no-cook play dough!

1. Mix together flour and salt. Gradually add oil, food coloring and water to dry mix.
2. Mix and knead until blended. Kids can make "tamales" from the play dough. Hide a small plastic ring inside one play dough tamale.
3. For a game, place the tamales in a pile. Have kids split into teams. Each child takes a turn running to the tamale pile, grabbing a tamale and searching it for the ring. The team that picks the winning tamale wins the race.
Remake the tamales and play again.



COMMUNITY COOKBOOK (AGES 5-12)

Materials: colored pencils, paper, recipes

Have each child bring in a recipe from their favorite family celebration. Have them write or type the recipe on a sheet of white paper. Let them illustrate the recipe with a picture of the food, their family or a symbol from the type of celebration the recipe represents. Bind the recipes together to make a community cookbook. If you can, make copies of the book to send home.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

The Old Man and His Door (1998), *The Skirt* (2008), *The Cat's Meow* (1997).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

www.rif.org/kids



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