



Say Hello! Written and illustrated by Rachel Isadora. Putnam, 2010*
Genre: Picture book

You will need:

- Martha puppet (see page 7-4) or Martha plush toy
- Mariela character card for each child
- Chart paper and marker
- “Around the World” activity supplies (page 7-3)

Say Hello!

Host: **Mariela**

Mariela, Helen and Jake’s mom, is bilingual—she speaks both English and Spanish. In *Say Hello!*, Carmelita and her mom walk down the street, greeting their neighbors in the many languages spoken there: *Hola, Shalom, Bonjour, Ni hao!*

Episode: **¿Qué Pasa, Martha?** (#209)

The Spanish teacher has asked everyone to prepare a report—in Spanish! Helen’s friend Alice is a nervous wreck. Luckily, Martha is there to lend a paw. (Available free at pbskids.org/martha/parentsteachers/bookclub/episodes.html or for purchase from iTunes®.)

Welcome

Sing the song *M-A-R-T-H-A* (see Supporting Materials) or use another warm-up activity of your choice.

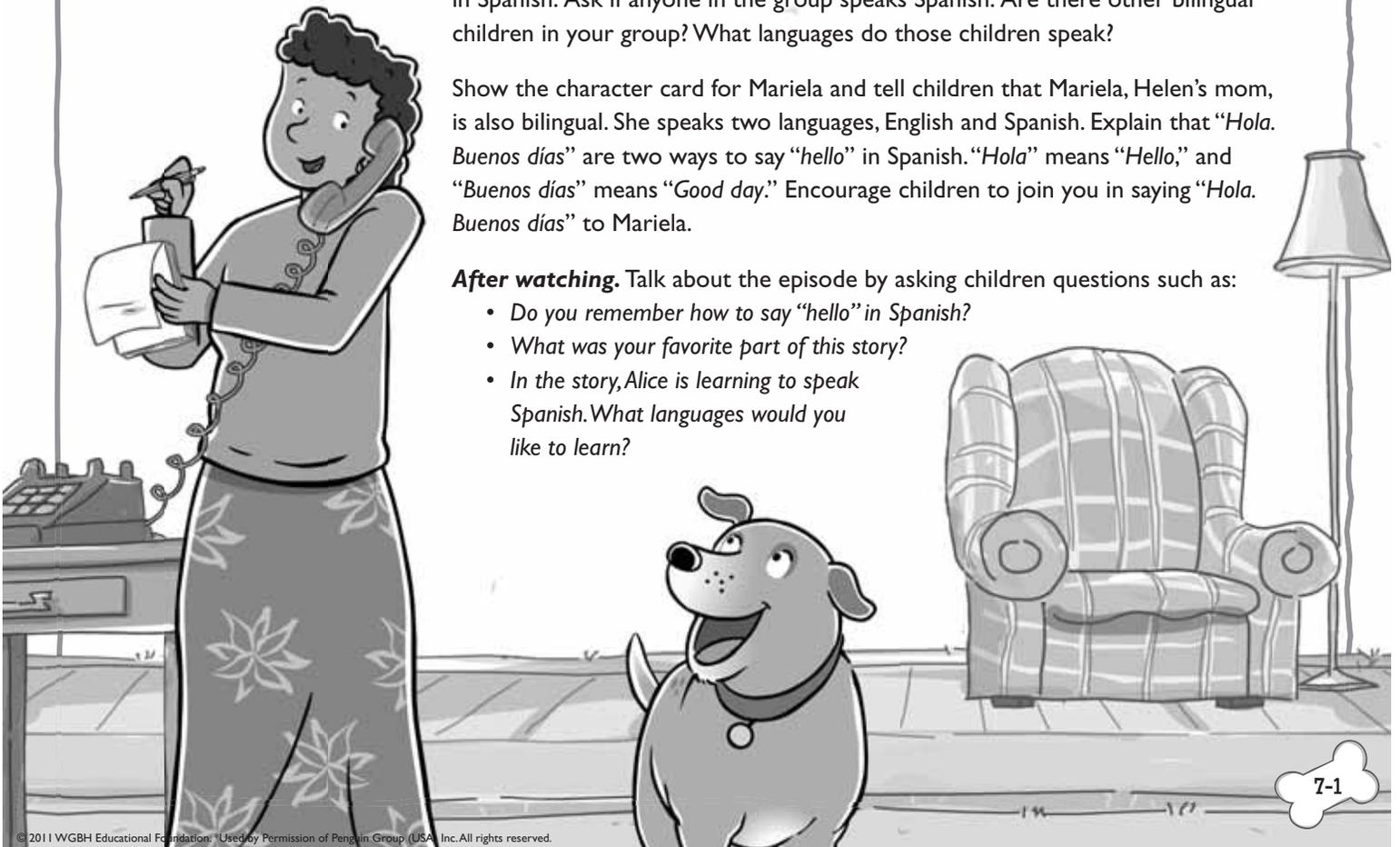
Watch the Episode

Before watching. Have your Martha puppet or Martha toy greet the children in Spanish: “*Hola, niños. ¿Qué pasa?*” Encourage them to return the greeting, “*Hola, Martha.*” Ask the children if they know what language Martha is speaking. Explain that Martha just ate some delicious Mexican alphabet soup and so she is speaking in Spanish. Ask if anyone in the group speaks Spanish. Are there other bilingual children in your group? What languages do those children speak?

Show the character card for Mariela and tell children that Mariela, Helen’s mom, is also bilingual. She speaks two languages, English and Spanish. Explain that “*Hola. Buenos días*” are two ways to say “hello” in Spanish. “*Hola*” means “Hello,” and “*Buenos días*” means “Good day.” Encourage children to join you in saying “*Hola. Buenos días*” to Mariela.

After watching. Talk about the episode by asking children questions such as:

- *Do you remember how to say “hello” in Spanish?*
- *What was your favorite part of this story?*
- *In the story, Alice is learning to speak Spanish. What languages would you like to learn?*



Read the Book

Before you read. Show the book cover. Read aloud the title and the name of the author. Read some of the other greeting words on the cover, especially those in languages spoken by children in your group. Have children offer ideas as to what the words mean.

As you read. Invite children to join in with the greetings that appear within the art on each spread: *Buenos días* and *Woof!*; *Shalom* and *Woof!* etc.

After you read. Ask children if they can remember two ways to say “hello” in Spanish (*Hola*, *Buenos días*). If you have made one beforehand, your Martha puppet can praise your young linguists, “*Muy bueno! Excelente! You are learning Spanish!*”

Flip through the pages of the book and discuss which language each greeting is in and, if time and interest allow, where that language is spoken. (The final page of the book lists the languages and provides pronunciation.) Write the greetings and their languages in a two-column chart. (You will use this chart in the “Around the World Greetings” activities.) Ask children (as well as parents and caregivers, if they are part of the group) if they know how to say “hello” in an additional language. If possible, add those greetings and languages to your chart.

Do a Related Activity

Choose one or both of the “Around the World Greetings” activities (page 7-3). Adapt the activities as needed or substitute one of your own. If you prefer, you can distribute the Martha Puppet template as a take-home activity instead.

Wrap Up

Invite each child to say “hello” in the language of their choice (including English), using their Martha Puppets (if available). You can use your Martha puppet or toy to respond or substitute a wrap-up activity of your choice. Give each child a Mariela character card to take home. Say goodbye to each other in Spanish and English:

“*Adios, amigos. Goodbye, friends.*”



Around the World Greetings

You will need:

- Martha Puppet template (see page 7-4)
- Craft sticks
- Safety scissors
- Tape or glue stick

Option 1: Martha Puppet

The template (see page 7-4) has two pictures of Martha, each with a speech bubble. Help children write a greeting in the language of their choice in the empty speech bubble. The other side will contain the same greeting in a different language. They can use the words found on the template or on the chart. Have children cut out the two-sided puppet on the solid lines then fold on the dotted line so a picture of Martha can be seen on both sides. Glue or tape the puppet to a craft stick. Children can use their puppets to sing the “Hello Song” and/or exchange multilingual greetings with each other.

You will need:

- Greetings chart (see page 7-2)
- Playground ball

Option 2: Circle Game

Sit in a circle on the floor. Review the greetings from *Say Hello!* as well as other greetings contributed by children in your group. Roll a ball to a child (Child 1) as you say a greeting in the language of your choice. Child 1 catches the ball and repeats your greeting. Then the class sings a verse of the “Hello Song” (see below), sung to the tune of “Happy Birthday.” Continue the game by having Child 1 roll the ball to another child (Child 2) as he or she says a greeting in the language of his/her choice. Child 2 will catch the ball and repeat Child 1’s greeting. Then the class will sing a matching verse of the “Hello Song”.

Hello Song

Librarian (*rolling the ball to Child 1*): Buenos días!

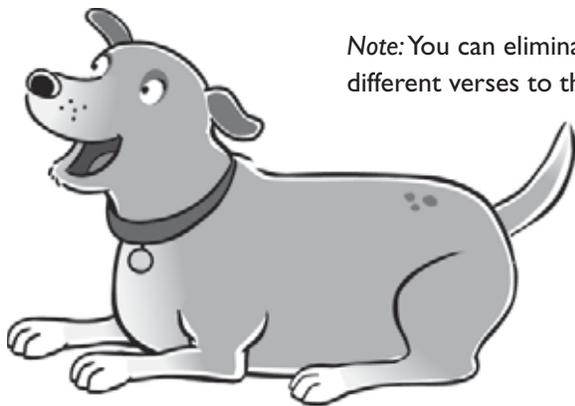
Child 1 (*catching the ball*): Buenos días!

Everyone (*singing to the tune of “Happy Birthday”*):

Buenos días, hello. Buenos días, hello.

Make a friend when you say, “Buenos días, hello.”

Note: You can eliminate the ball rolling and simply use the chart to create and sing different verses to the “Hello Song.”



Martha Puppet

Hello!



Hola
Spanish

Jambo
Swahili

Ni hao
Chinese

Shalom
Hebrew