

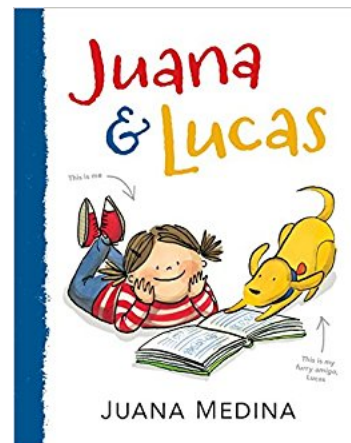


Kids Book Club Kit | Darien Library

Juana & Lucas by Juana Medina

Recommended for grades 2 to 3

Summary: Juana loves many things – drawing, eating Brussels sprouts, living in Bogotá, Colombia, and especially her dog, Lucas, the best *amigo* ever. She does not love wearing her itchy school uniform, solving math problems, or going to dance class. And she especially does not love learning English. Why is it so important to learn a language that makes so little sense? But when Juana’s *abuelos* tell her about a special trip they are planning—one that Juana will need to speak English to go on—Juana begins to wonder whether learning English might be a good use of her time after all.



Discussion Questions:

1. Juana loves Bogotá, Colombia, where she lives. What are some of her favorite things about Bogotá? What do you like best about where you live?
2. Lots of people in Juana’s life try to convince her that learning English is something positive. What are some benefits of learning another language?
3. Juana has a list of things and people she likes and dislikes. Name 3 of your favorite things or 3 things you dislike. Tell why you like or dislike them.
4. English is difficult for Juana to learn. What is something difficult that you have had to learn? Who and what helped you through the process?
5. How does Juana feel when she finally meets Astroman? Does she think learning English was worthwhile? Why?

Further Resources:

Q&A with the author: <https://dar.to/35iZL9f>

Learn about other cultures: <https://dar.to/2Oyl2F5>

Activities

1. Juana’s favorite superhero is Astroman. Think about your favorite superhero or movie, book, or T.V. character. Create a picture of that character and see if your friends can guess who it is.
2. Learn a new language with friends! Try counting in Spanish, say the colors in French, or learn how to say animal names in Mandarin. Mango Languages: <https://dar.to/2XxbEFR>