

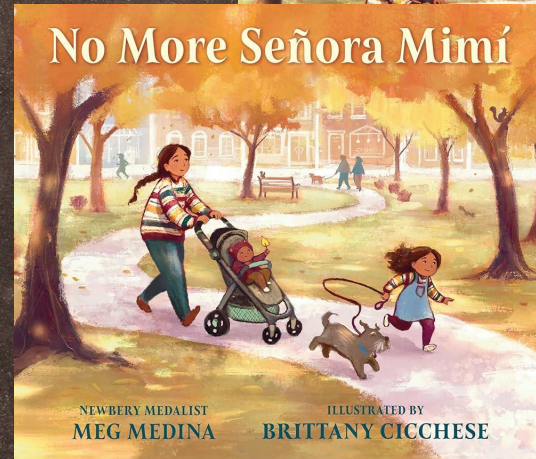
# No More Señora Mimí

Reading, Writing, and  
Communicating Activity

By: Meg Medina

Illustrated by: Brittany Cicchese

Developed by Sydney K. and Mario V. for CU Boulder's Children's Book Festival 2024, Open  
Education Resource, Creative Commons. Available at [colorado.edu/event/bookfest](https://colorado.edu/event/bookfest)







# Grade and Colorado Academic Standard

Activity Intended for 3rd Grade

Content Area:

Reading, Writing, and Communicating

Colorado Academic Standards Information:

Standards Category : Reading for All Purposes

Grade Level Expectation: Apply strategies to fluently read and comprehend various literary texts.

Evidence Outcome : b. Use Craft and Structure to:

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

Colorado Academic Standard information retrieved from <https://www.cde.state.co.us/apps/standards>

View the full standards at <https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/standards>



## Activity Overview

There are two phrases in *No More Señora Mimí* that use metaphors to convey meaning. In small groups, students will explore the meaning of the phrases as well as come up with their own metaphors to deliver the same meaning.







# Materials

## Worksheet #1:

Line 1, as a class: "My words make dragon puffs in the air between us" (p. 10).

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ft9TGBwMKN0xzsJoEVRdwZiyxhgX1jtHaGQ\\_XbCbgXo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ft9TGBwMKN0xzsJoEVRdwZiyxhgX1jtHaGQ_XbCbgXo/edit?usp=sharing)

## Worksheet #2:

Line 2, in small groups: "All at once, the words don't taste like candy anymore" (p. 19).

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1X2nyk2PzzvHcEPzZxzQtAaxgrm457yoLOcBOKbjmVyM/edit?usp=sharing>



# Directions

## Introduce the Book

- Begin with a read-aloud of *No More Señora Mimi*.
- Then, mention that there are two phrases in the book that are metaphors.
- Give a brief introduction of metaphors; this could be done in two ways:
  - a. Show this video to the class <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvGzp4UGUFo>
    - i. Stop at [1:56], Video is embedded on the next slide.
  - b. Explain using your own words by showing examples at the front of the room.

## introduce the Activity:

- Go back to the pages in which the two lines of interest are shown and identify them as a class.
- Explain that today the class will be exploring **nonliteral** and **literal** meaning in language, using these metaphors in *No More Señora Mimi*.



# Metaphors (Optional Video)







# Directions

## Do worksheet #1 together as a class

- Pull up worksheet number #1. Either work through it on a projector, or just use the worksheet to guide you as you write on the board.
- In worksheet #1, the class will have the opportunity to:
  - Define the terms “literal” and “nonliteral.”
  - Practice the activity under teacher’s guidance.

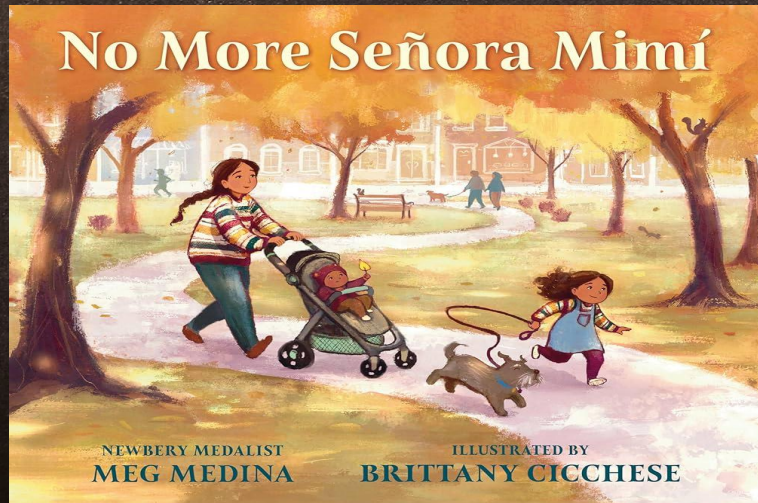
## Do worksheet #2 in small groups

- Break the class into small groups (2 or 3 students per group).
- Pass out 1 worksheet to each group.
  - Explain to the class that this worksheet is similar to the activity done in class, but that they will get to draw pictures and come up with one extra alternative sentence.
- Allow them to work through the second worksheet.



# Directions: Wrap-Up Discussion

- After groups have explored both phrases, share your metaphors as a class.
- Discuss how different metaphors can express the same ideas in unique ways.







# Extension: Metaphor Matching Game

For an extra activity, try a Metaphor Match Game to help students practice literal and nonliteral language. In this game, you'll need to print out cards with two types of sentences: literal ones that say exactly what they mean (for example, "The sun is bright") and nonliteral ones that use metaphors (for example "Her smile was a ray of sunshine").

**Below is a printout that you can cut to form cards. The first column has literal phrases from the book. The nonliteral cards are metaphors or figurative language that convey the same meaning:**

**[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YohdfwmXWxhsMjnfsSY7KgON1rrFhAp7hceGO1\\_2Ros/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YohdfwmXWxhsMjnfsSY7KgON1rrFhAp7hceGO1_2Ros/edit)**

Then, split the students into small groups, shuffle the cards, and have them work together to match the literal sentences with the correct metaphors. Once they've made their matches, have each group share their pairings and explain why they think their choices make sense. This will lead to a discussion on how metaphors creatively express meaning.

For example, the literal sentence "The classroom was very loud" might match with the metaphor "The classroom was a zoo," or "He runs really fast" could pair with "He's as fast as lightning."

To make it even more fun, have students create their own pairs of literal and nonliteral sentences, then swap their creations with other groups to keep the game going. It's a simple but engaging way to reinforce the lesson and let students stretch their creativity.



# Join us!

We also hope you can join us on Saturday,  
November 9 at the Boulder Public Library to  
meet Brittany Cicchese and hear more about  
*No More Señora Mimí* in-person...along with  
other authors and illustrators!

For more information, visit

<https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest>

The CU Boulder School of Education and Boulder Bookstore present

## 2024 Children's Book Festival

Saturday, November 9 | Boulder Public Library



JENNY SUE  
KOSTECKI-SHAW



BRITTANY  
CICCHESE



JULIE LEUNG



CHRIS  
GRABENSTEIN



AMALIE  
HOWARD



CRAIG KOFI  
FARMER

Join us on Saturday, November 9, 2024 | 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

 Boulder Public Library (Main Branch) - 1101 Arapahoe Ave.  
Free parking available

This free event includes author talks, a panel for educators, book sales and signing, children's activities and more. Come for part of the event, or stay for the day!

Free educational resources available on our website. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available for teachers and librarians.

Support provided by the CU Boulder Office for Public and Community Engaged Scholarship



Learn more and register at  
[colorado.edu/event/bookfest](https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest)

