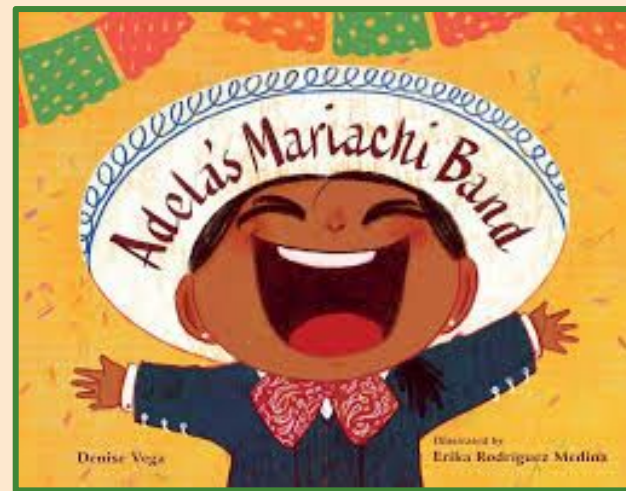


Adela's Mariachi Band

Written by: Denise Vega
Illustrated by: Erika Medina



Mariachi Mood Gallery Walk

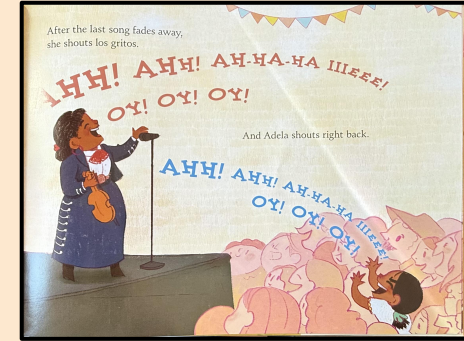
Developed by Alyssa Loya, Elizabeth Westhoven, and Phoebe McGown for CU Boulder's Children's Book Festival 2025, Open Education Resource, Creative Commons, Available at colorado.edu/event/bookfest



Grade and Colorado Academic Standard



Content Area	Grade	Standard
Reading, Writing, and Communicating	3rd Grade	Reading for All Purposes



Grade Level Expectation

Apply strategies to fluently read and comprehend various literary texts.

Evidence Outcome

Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (for example: create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting)

- "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>

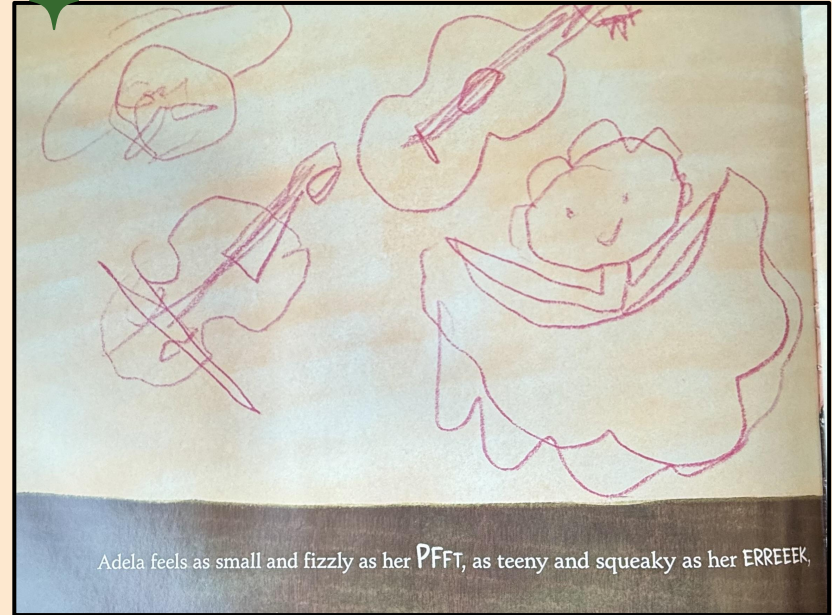
- In *Adela's Mariachi Band*, moods and emotions are shown through words and colorful illustrations of music, family, and celebration.
- Students will explore how these pictures help tell Adela's story and create mood.
- In small groups (4-5 groups), each will focus on one illustration and discuss how color, expression, and setting add meaning.
- Groups will create a **Mariachi Mood Poster** with a redrawing of their illustration and a short explanation of the mood and details they noticed.
- This activity connects art and literacy as students explain how illustrations support the story's words.

Activity Overview



~ Materials

- Book
- Chart paper, construction paper, or poster paper - one sheet per group
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils - for drawing and labeling
- Mood word bank (optional) - list of feeling words like “joyful” or “excited” to help with labeling



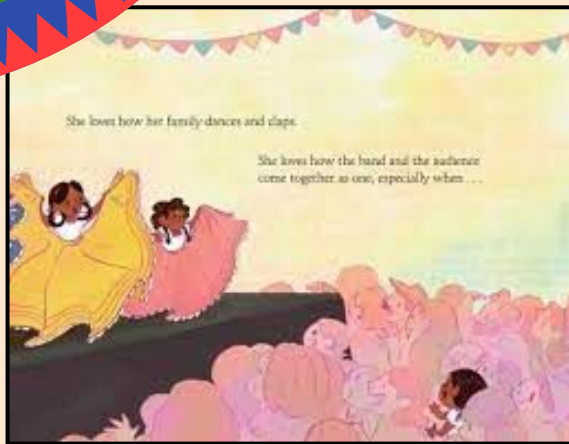
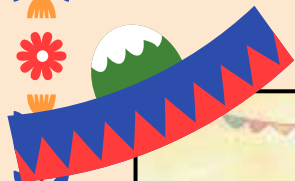
Step-By-Step Directions

- After reading the book, divide students into 4-5 small groups.
- Give each group a different illustration or page from the book.
- Ask groups to discuss:
 - What's is happening in this picture?
 - How do the colors and expressions make you feel?
 - How do you think Adela feels in this picture?



*Here is a sample illustration that works well for the Mariachi Mood Posters!

Step-By-Step Directions pt 2.



Students can interpret and discuss color, mood, and emotion.

- On chart paper or poster paper, students will:
 - Recreate the illustration in their own way.
 - Label or write short captions explaining the mood and details they noticed.
- Once completed, hang the posters around the room for a **Mariachi Mood Gallery Walk**.
- During the gallery walk, students will walk around, using sticky notes to write one mood word.
 - Participate in a short class discussion about how each picture shows different feelings



Additional Suggestions

Some other activities to go along with our suggestion are:

- **Illustrator for a Day:** Students draw their own illustration for a new page for the book.
- **Mood Word Match-Up:** Give students small copies of illustrations and list of mood words to mix and match.
- **Adela's Feelings Chart:** As a class, make a big chart about the illustrations, what's happening, and the mood and feelings.
-  **Bilingual Extension:** Allow students to label moods/short captions in English **AND** Spanish.

Join Us!

We also hope you can join on Saturday, November 8th at Boulder Public Library to meet Denise Vega to hear more about *Adela's Mariachi Band* 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 the

2025 Children's Book Festival

Saturday, November 8 | Boulder Public Library



 SALINA YOON	 NYASHA WILLIAMS	 DENISE VEGA
 PAM MUÑOZ RYAN	 RITA WILLIAMS-GARCIA	 SHAREE MILLER

Join us on Saturday, November 8, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

 **Boulder Public Library (Main Branch) - 1001 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.

The CU Children's Book Festival is supported by a grant from the CU Office for Public and Community Engaged Scholarship (PACE).



See the schedule & register:
colorado.edu/event/bookfest

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