

Weekly Concept **Sharing Traditions**



Essential Question

What traditions do you know about?



Go Digital!



Talk About It

What is this boy learning from his grandmother?

Pass It On!



Genre Realistic Fiction



Essential Question

What traditions do you know about?

Read about how a family starts a new tradition.



Go Digital!



A Spring Birthday





May was a happy time for Marco. It was his birthday month.

“Can I have a party this year?” he asked.
“Then my friends can celebrate with me.”



“It’s our family tradition to have a birthday dinner,” said Gram. “**Your** friends can join us. I will make *empanadas* for everyone.”

“**Nobody** makes better *empanadas*, Gram!” Marco said. “But it would be fun to do something new this year.”



“How about a picnic?” Dad asked. “I **heard** about a nice spot in the park on Elm Street. It’s in **front** of the ball field. We can **push** the tables together.”

“That sounds like fun,” said Marco. “We can have hotdogs, burgers, and Gram’s *empanadas!*”

At last, it was the morning of Marco's birthday. He opened his eyes. He saw Mom and Dad and Gram. They were singing the Mexican birthday song, "*Las mañanitas*." Marco sprang out of bed. He could not wait for his party.



Mom and Dad went shopping **before** the party. First, they got a baseball mitt for Marco. Then they bought a birthday cake and a *piñata*.

Everyone met at the picnic spot. “Happy birthday! *Feliz cumpleaños, Marco!*” they shouted.





Mom hung the *piñata*. Dad spread out the food. There were hotdogs, burgers, and yummy *empanadas*!

After lunch, the children took turns striking the *piñata*. Each one swung three times. The *piñata* was **difficult** to hit! At last it split open. The kids shrieked and scrambled for the treats.



Next Marco opened his gifts. When he saw the baseball mitt, he cried, “Thank you! This is just what I wanted! I can use it in the game **tomorrow.**”

When it was time for cake, Marco’s family sang the Mexican birthday song again. Marco’s friends hummed along. Then Mom taught them the words so they could sing it, too!

“This is the best birthday party I’ve ever had!” Marco said. “Can we do this again next year?”

“Sure,” said Gram. “It’s fun to mix the old with the new. A spring picnic can be your birthday tradition.”



Make Connections

What traditions do you know about from other places in the world? **Essential Question**