

THE LANGUAGES IN MY POCKET



BY CHILDBOOK.AI

Maya had two languages. At home, she spoke Spanish with Abuela and Mamá. At school, she spoke English with her teacher and friends. Sometimes Maya felt like she had two pockets. One pocket held Spanish words. The other pocket held English words. "Which language is better?" Maya asked Abuela one day. Abuela smiled and hugged her. "Both are special, mi amor," she said softly.



At school, Maya's class talked about favorite foods. "I love tacos de pollo," Maya said. Some kids giggled. Maya's cheeks felt hot. She wished she had only said "chicken tacos" in English. During lunch, Maya sat quietly. Her friend Emma asked, "Why are you so quiet?" Maya shrugged. "I said something funny," she whispered. Emma shook her head. "No, you didn't. Tacos de pollo sounds cool!"



After school, Maya told Abuela what happened. Abuela sat down beside her. "When I came here, I only spoke Spanish," Abuela began. "I felt scared and alone. But my languages are treasures. Spanish connects me to my family and memories. English helps me make new friends." She touched Maya's hand gently. "You have two treasures in your pockets, Maya. Never hide them."



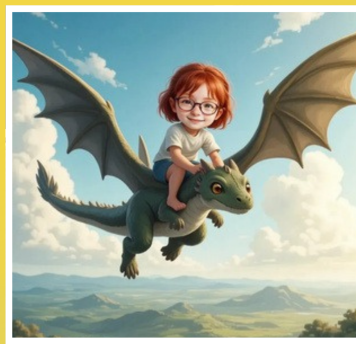
The next day, Maya raised her hand in class. "Can I teach everyone some Spanish words?" she asked. Her teacher smiled brightly. "Yes, please!" Maya taught her friends to say "hola," "gracias," and "amigo." Everyone practiced together. Emma said, "This is fun! Teach us more!" Maya felt proud and happy. Her two pockets weren't different anymore. They both made her special. She couldn't wait to share more.



hola,
gracias.
amigo.

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