

Identities & Themes

- Latinx/e/o/a
- Immigration/Migration
- EL/Language Barrier
- Socioeconomic Status
- Standing up for self/others
- School success

Teacher Reflection Questions

1. What messages did you receive about immigrants when you were a child?
2. What messages are your students getting? How can you learn the stories of students in your classroom?
3. In what ways can you counter negative messages about immigrant families with respect and empathy?

Background Information for Teacher

This book offers insights into a family's emotional journey when moving to a new country with a new language. Many children can relate to the fear that comes with learning something new, as illustrated by both the daughter and the mother in this story. Understanding the complexity of the experiences of new immigrants is important for children and adults. Showing respect and supporting home culture and language is key to dispelling biases and stereotypes.

Vocabulary in context: Note the Spanish words, sentences, phrases throughout the book.

See the **Immigration/Migration Primer** for more information.

Anti-Bias Education Tenets

- Empathy & Understanding
- Healthy Complex Identities
- Respect Across Differences
- Notice, Name, & Reject Bias
- Responsiveness & Action

Social-Emotional Learning Competencies

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Social Awareness
- Responsible Decision-Making
- Relationship Skills

Read this to the students before reading the book:

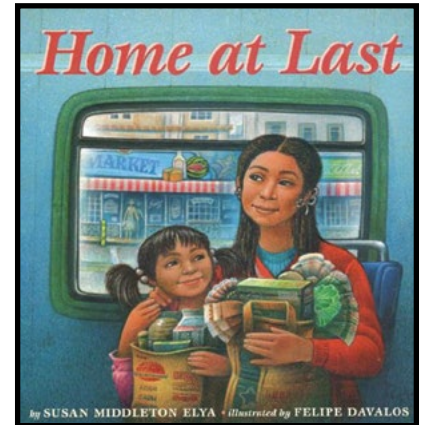
When Ana's family moves to the United States, her mother misses being surrounded by family and the familiar. As Ana adjusts to their new surroundings, her mother struggles. Ana witnesses a shopkeeper mistreat her mother and the isolation that comes with not having a shared language.

Discussion Questions (essential questions bolded)

1. **What new experiences does the family in the story encounter? How do they each respond to those experiences?**
2. **What did Ana and her family give up in order to move to the U.S. from Mexico?**
3. When did you encounter a new and unfamiliar experience? How did you feel? How did you respond?
4. Why do you think Ana's mother was reluctant to learn English?
5. **Describe the emotions, biases, and behaviors surrounding Ana and her mother's first encounter with the clerk and the overpriced chicken.**
6. When the clerk overcharged Ana and her mother again, do you think he did this on purpose or was it an honest mistake? Why?
7. **How could people have been more understanding of Ana's mother?**
8. **How did Ana and her family show resilience?**
9. **What does this book reveal about immigration? Share your experience or prior knowledge about this topic.**

Journal Prompts & Extension Activities

1. It seemed that Ana's teacher and classmates really tried to make Ana feel welcome. How could members of the community have done the same for her mother?
2. Prejudice is a negative attitude held against an individual due to their real or perceived membership in a social group. In this story there was prejudice about language and immigration status. Tell about the prejudice shown in this book and how prejudice can hinder a person's day-to-day life. What can be done to counteract these prejudices?
3. Write or draw about a time when you were treated unfairly like Ana's mother was and how you showed courage and resilience.



Literacy Connections

- Realistic fiction
- Identify details in the text
- Compare and contrast events
- Compare and contrast characters
- Identify theme or main message
- Describe characters/
Character development
- Character point of view
- Make predictions
- Make inferences
- Make text connections (to self, text, the world)
- Describe major plot events
- Sequence events
- Vocabulary in context
- Figurative language