

Josefina: Sunlight and Shadows Discussion Questions

Who was your favorite character and why? What was your favorite scene/event?

1. How many sisters does Josefina have and what are their names? Where do they live?
2. Who came in the caravan? What was the one thing Tia Dolores wouldn't leave without? Who was Josefina comparing Tia Dolores to?
3. What was the surprise gift that Josefina wanted to give Tia Dolores and why? What happened to it and what did Josefina do? How was she brave?
4. What bad news did Papa bring about the storm from the village? How did the storm affect the rancho? What idea did Tia Dolores have to help? How did the girls react?
5. What new skill did Tia Dolores ask Papa if he could teach the girls? What was Francisca's reaction and why? Were you surprised by her reaction? What was in the book that Tia Dolores showed Josefina? How did Josefina encourage Francisca to want to read?
6. Why did Christmas make the girls sad? What tradition did Mama start with Ana that the girls forgot about last year? Who's turn was it to have Nina?
7. What did Senor Garcia ask Josefina to do this Christmas? How did she respond?
8. What did they find when they opened the trunk? What was Tia Dolores' solution? How did Clara feel about it? How would you have reacted? What did Tia Dolores show the girls that their mama had given her?
9. What day had finally arrived at the end of the book? What surprised Josefina to find on her bed? Were you surprised? What happened to Margarita? Who stepped in to fill her spot?

Josefina Woven Mat Craft

Supplies:

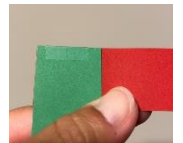
- 2 pieces of cardstock- each a different color
 - One color cut into strips of 1 inch by 11 inches
 - The other color cut into strips of 1 inch by 8.5 inches
- Scotch tape
- Scissors

*Note- we will be using very small pieces of tape in this activity. You might cut a bunch up before we start.



Directions:

1. Take a long strip and lay it horizontally. Take a short strip and tape it on top of the long strip at the very left side. Try to get the corners to line up exactly. It will kind of make an "L."



2. Take another short strip. Lay it right along side the first short strip except this time you will tape it to the BACK of the long strip.



3. Continue the front/back pattern all the way to the end of the long strip. (It should take 11 short strips.) *It is important that the strips lay close to each other, but don't overlap them.*



4. Take another LONG strip. Starting at the left, this time go OVER the first short strip, under the second, over the 3rd, following this pattern until you reach the end.



5. Push your second long strip up gently to make sure it is flush against the top long strip. Make sure it is in the correct place before you tape it to the first short strip on the left.

6. Take a 3rd long strip. From the left, go UNDER the first short strip, then over, then under, etc

7. Repeat this weaving process until the entire mat is formed. You can trim off any overhang with your scissors.



8. Once the strips are all lined up like you want them, put tape around the entire frame to ensure it stays together.