



## ¡hola! Let's Learn Spanish: Visit New Places and Make New Friends

*Judy Martialay*

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## **¡hola! Let's Learn Spanish: Visit New Places and Make New Friends Judy Martialay**

¡HOLA! Let's Learn Spanish Visit New Places and Make New Friends! Introduces children to Spanish. The purpose of the book is to give children an enjoyable experience learning the language as well as to teach them a useful skill. The age range of children is roughly 6-10, although it should include the largest age range possible. It is especially useful for parents and children who reside in the many districts where foreign language is not offered in elementary school. My hope is that kids and their parents will be inspired to continue their study of Spanish throughout school, so that they can truly communicate to the millions of Spanish speakers throughout the world. The book can be used by older children themselves. It can be adapted for use in Foreign Language in Elementary School , FLES, programs and in Foreign Language Experience, FLEX, programs. It can be used by librarians. It would make a great gift for grandparents, relatives or anyone who has a child in his or her life and would like to give that child the beginning of a truly world class education. It can be used by parents, whether or not they speak Spanish, and their children. There is an audio version of the book on <http://polyglotkidz.com>. Children and parents should follow along with book and audio so that they learn the best pronunciation. The book begins with an introduction, where Pete the Pilot invites children aboard his magic plane for an imaginary trip to Mexico. On board, children are given some basic words and expressions to learn. Parents and children will have best results when learning the Spanish when they repeat often, and use the Spanish in everyday life situations. The book is designed to help them do that. When the children arrive in Mexico, they meet Panchito, the jumping bean, and they follow his adventures while learning Spanish, and becoming acquainted with the culture of Mexico. When they return, they bring their Spanish back home with them. In the activities section, they are encouraged to use Spanish in every day situations. For example, they have a treasure hunt of people and objects around their house. They can have fun putting on a skit with their friends. In the Culture Corner, kids learn more about the different customs that they meet during the story, and they get more ideas on how to use their Spanish. They can sing the traditional song for breaking the piñata. In the craft section, children can make a mask with frijoles, beans that they encountered in the story. There are more opportunities for using Spanish. With the vocabulary section, they can hear again how each word or phrase is pronounced. With ¡HOLA! Let's Learn Spanish, children engage in a variety of activities designed to accommodate a variety of learning styles, and enjoy communicating in Spanish.

## **¡hola! Let's Learn Spanish: Visit New Places and Make New Friends Details**

Date : Published November 30th 2015 by BookBaby

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Author : Judy Martialay

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**Judy Martialay**

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## **From Reader Review ¡hola! Let's Learn Spanish: Visit New Places and Make New Friends for online ebook**

### **Jackie Nolan says**

Hola, Let's Learn Spanish is a great resource for anyone who would like to learn some beginner/basic Spanish. This book is geared towards ages 5 through 10. Since my sons are older (11 and 9), the story was a little "baby-ish" for them, but they still enjoyed the book and following the story of Panchito, the mexican jumping bean. They haven't had any Spanish lessons at all, so they learned a lot of new words and phrases by reading this book.

I have taken Spanish classes before, so I was able to help my sons with the pronunciation of these words. However, if you are unsure on how to pronounce the Spanish words in this book, you can visit the website listed above in the synopsis and go to the 'audio' tab to download an audio version of the book. The website is full of a lot of useful information.

The inside of the book is fun and colorful and uses repetition to help learn the Spanish vocabulary. After Panchito's story there are sections that list Spanish words and phrases that you will use in everyday life. There is also a section talking about culture that my sons really enjoyed reading.

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\*I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

### **Gwen says**

Interactive book great for children (or anyone wishing to learn more Spanish). I am giving it to my granddaughter to help her learn Spanish.

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I received this book free from Goodreads First Reads.

### **Carole P. Roman says**

Que mono! Judy Martialay has created a wonderful party that is also a book. Filled with everything from a neat little story, to activities, games, and work sheets, she has managed to make reading this book into a Spanish experience. She leaves nothing out and makes this a fun learning tool for both parents and children. Any person reading this with their child, can direct the book to the appropriate age group. Whether your child is very young and you want them to become familiar with the sound of a new language, or you are interested in pushing it up a notch, this is a wonderful example of every aspect of leaning about Spanish culture.

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### **N.N. Light says**

Learning a new language (no matter how old you are) can be tricky but in this book, Judy Martialay makes it fun to learn Spanish. Pete the Pilot, is our tour guide and his job is to fly kids around the world. He's a friendly character and explains how kids love to do the same stuff as you or me. Along the way, we meet Panchito, the Mexican Jumping Bean. What unfolds is a delightful story of Panchito and what his life is like, as well as Mexican customs and traditions.

Each page is filled with adorable, colorful illustrations any child can relate to along with plenty of Spanish words to learn. Because it's told in a story, it's easy to learn the Spanish words. I found myself speaking Spanish before long and laughing.

While this book is geared for primary school-aged children (6-10), adults can pick up Spanish, too. Before long, the whole family will be speaking Spanish.

Martialay has a passion for teaching children foreign languages and it comes across in the book. I loved it and plan on buying the French one next. An excellent resource for teachers, parents, educators and even grandparents. A must own!

My Rating: 5+ stars

This review first appeared: <https://www.nnlightsbookheaven.com/si...>

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### **Stacey says**

Hola! Let's Learn Spanish, by Judy Martialay is a beautiful children's book. The book is colorful, bright and inviting. In the book, readers are introduced to characters Pete the Pilot and Panchito the Mexican jumping bean. The book is written for children ages 6-10+ who are interested in beginning to learn Spanish. In the back of the book there are several activities to do at home (or in the classroom) and a small dictionary of words that were introduced in the book (organized by chapter). I found the dictionary helpful to revisit, to practice new words. The book is a great way to introduce children to Spanish.

The story introduces young readers to Pete the Pilot, who is on his way to Mexico. While enjoying the plane ride, readers begin to learn basic Spanish. Once the plane arrives to Mexico, we meet Panchito the Mexican jumping bean and follow him on his adventures.

Martialay's book also includes a website ([www.polyglotkidz.com](http://www.polyglotkidz.com)) with an audio page - this includes an

audio version of the book (which can be helpful with pronunciations). The website also includes: tips for parents, downloadable activity sheets, family friendly recipes, downloadable games, and downloadable info-sheets on the benefits of learning a second language.

I highly recommend Martialay's children's book, *Hola! Let's Learn Spanish* for all children interested in learning a second language.

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### **Lilyn G. | Sci-Fi & Scary says**

My 7-year-old and I read this book together, listening to the accompanying audio that's found (for free) on [www.polyglotkidz.com](http://www.polyglotkidz.com). I found the book to be perfectly suited for the age range, with simple illustrations that add color to the page without distracting the reader from what they're reading. The small story about Panchito is written in an easy, flowing way, that help the kids figure out the Spanish words by context and mostly subtle repetitions or hints in English.

The book contains the aforementioned Panchito story, some activities like making masks, vocabulary words, and a skit. My child had an easy time following along, liked going through some of the activities with me, such as responding where she would find certain things (by Spanish name, location), and enjoyed the Panchito story more than I thought she would.

Overall, this was a good read and having the free audio was nice. However, the natural pauses the narrators gave could have been a bit longer. Oftentimes, my child would be in the middle of trying to repeat one of the Spanish words, and the story was already moving on. Even an extra second or two would have been nice. (I got in the habit of pressing pause myself, which isn't a big deal, but still. Independently, that would have been a pain for my child.) It was interesting, and definitely kept the 7-year-old's attention.

#### **Kid's Review:**

Well, I really liked it. Panchito was a really funny name. Panchito was a jumping bean. I liked the little jumping bean story and the activities too! We looked around the house for stuff, and pretended we were at the grocery store! The pinata song was fun.

It teaches you about Spanish. If someone, like me, didn't know how to speak Spanish they should get this book. They would be able to look up how to say words in it. The audio portion mommy played on the computer was pretty cool and I liked that Judy Martialay had us repeating the words, but it went a little fast sometimes.

I do want to visit Mexico one day.

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Disclaimer: We received a copy of this book free in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Mrs Mommy Booknerd <http://mrsmommybooknerd.blogspot.com> says**

A great book that allows both children and adults to jointly learn some simple Spanish. I recommend that

you use the website as well, as it will aid the in the correct pronunciation of the Spanish words. The pictures that accompany the story are interesting as well and help aid in understanding what is happening in the story.  
4 stars

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### **Storywraps says**

Pete the Pilot boards the children on his plane and off they zoom to Mexico. While on the plane the children learn some basic Spanish words and phrases so they can speak with the Mexican people when they reach their destination.

The children meet up with Panchito, an adventurous Mexican jumping bean who is very excited and happy to accompany the children as they experience Mexican culture at it's finest.

This educational and fun book contains both English and Spanish words. The Spanish words and phrases are printed boldly allowing the young readers to differentiate between the two languages. The fact that the book is not in text-book form but woven into a lovely story will be a great hit with children learning a new language.

The author has added additional activities to accompany the story: a list of words and useful expressions that are contained in the book, instructions and a template to help children create a mask, and encouraging words to help children perform a skit so they can practise their new found language to family and friends in Spanish, just to name a few!

If your child is interested in learning a new language this book is a gentle, interesting and educational way to get them started.

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### **Stephanie - Adventures Thru Wonderland says**

A great resource for learning Spanish! While it's geared toward teaching grade school kids (Ages 6-10), the adults reading this can stand to learn just as much! Only knowing a few words in Spanish, I found this to be a fun and educational read! Told as a story, the words are used in sentences accompanied with colorful pictures to help make the learning easy and fun.

Using food, a song, and fun masks to teach about the culture as well as teaching Spanish words along the way, make this an interactive and interesting way to learn a new language!

\*I received a copy from the author for review. This does not affect my review.\*

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### **Eugenia Chu says**

This book, about a jumping bean named Panchito, is SO MUCH MORE than just a story! It's also an activities workbook for kids to practice speaking and reading Spanish, and includes such fun things like treasure hunt games, a skit for friends to perform, songs (in Spanish and English) and masks to make! What a

fun way to introduce Spanish and a little Mexican culture to children!

The story itself, even without all the amazing extra learning/playing guides, is adorable! Pete the Pilot flies us to Mexico and introduces some common Spanish words/phrases which will be used in the story. Upon landing in a bean field, or en un campo de frijoles, we meet Panchito, a cute little Mexican jumping bean! He is lonely and is looking to make friends, but the other regular beans, or frijoles, do not talk or play. Panchito goes through a series of events, told in English with some Spanish woven throughout, and ultimately ends up at a child's birthday party where he makes lots of new friends! I love happy endings! And I love the way the author weaves Spanish and Mexican culture into the story in a way that flows naturally and is understandable, even if you don't speak any Spanish! And if you are in doubt, all the Spanish words and phrases, which are bolded throughout the story, are defined in the back of the book. And if that's not enough, there's also an audio version of the book on the author's website so you can listen to the correct pronunciation of each word. She has thought of everything to make this a fun and interactive way to learn Spanish!

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### **LitPick Student Book Reviews says**

¡Hola! Let's Learn Spanish by Judy Martialay is a fantastic way to learn some Spanish and experience a little bit of the culture in Spanish-speaking countries. The best part of the book is that readers don't have to know any Spanish to enjoy it. At the beginning, Pete the Pilot introduces Mexico and a story about Panchito, a Mexican jumping bean. It's written in English with key words written in Spanish. The next time those words appear, they are written only in Spanish. This gives readers a chance to practice remembering what the words mean. In the "It's Your Turn" section, readers learn a few new words and how to ask basic questions in Spanish while the "Culture Corner" section has interesting, fun facts to read. The book also has a skit that can be acted out, a Spanish song that can be sung, and mask patterns with instructions if readers would like to do a fun Mexican craft. The book ends with lists of all of the Spanish words that appear in each chapter and what they mean.

The book becomes an educational kit when readers explore the website and download the audio file that goes with it. [www.polyglotkidz.com](http://www.polyglotkidz.com) has all sorts of information about how and why we should learn languages at a young age. It has recipes, activity sheets, and even a board game with questions that can be printed out. The audio has Mrs. Martialay reading with a native Spanish speaker while guitar music plays on and off. Everything works together to create a special real-life Spanish experience. The web site also has information about Mrs. Martialay's book for learning French if anyone is interested in that.

#### **Opinion:**

I had the best time reading and studying ¡Hola! Let's Learn Spanish. It's written for kids ages 6 to 10, so they can have a fun language experience. Even though I'm 13, I still think it's a great way to take a break and "play around" with learning Spanish. I liked the simple, colorful pictures on every page as I read about Panchito, the Mexican jumping bean, traveling from a farmer's field all the way to a piñata at a child's birthday party. Reading the book, thinking about the food in the recipes on the web site, and listening to the audio made me feel like I really was part of Spanish culture. Most importantly, this book helped me realize being able to speak Spanish so people can understand me is just as important as recognizing what is said in the written words that I've been studying on my own for over a year now.

Reviewed by a LitPick student book reviewer, Age 12

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## N.N. Light says

Learning a new language (no matter how old you are) can be tricky but in this book, Judy Martialay makes it fun to learn Spanish. Pete the Pilot, is our tour guide and his job is to fly kids around the world. He's a friendly character and explains how kids love to do the same stuff as you or me. Along the way, we meet Panchito, the Mexican Jumping Bean. What unfolds is a delightful story of Panchito and what his life is like, as well as Mexican customs and traditions.

Each page is filled with adorable, colorful illustrations any child can relate to along with plenty of Spanish words to learn. Because it's told in a story, it's easy to learn the Spanish words. I found myself speaking Spanish before long and laughing.

While this book is geared for primary school-aged children (6-10), adults can pick up Spanish, too. Before long, the whole family will be speaking Spanish.

Martialay has a passion for teaching children foreign languages and it comes across in the book. I loved it and plan on buying the French one next. An excellent resource for teachers, parents, educators and even grandparents. A must own!

My Rating: 5+ stars

This review first appeared: <https://princessofthelight.wordpress.com>

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## C.E. Hart says

***HOLA! Let's Learn Spanish***, by Judy Martialay, is a book containing a cohesive learning experience that packs a punch, with an enjoyable story, Spanish words and phrases, fun activities, and a song.

In the story, Pete the Pilot takes readers on a journey to Mexico, where they are introduced to Mexican culture. They soon meet a new friend, Panchito, who is a charming and adventurous Mexican jumping bean. Panchito is lonely so he sets off to find someone to play with. After landing in a precarious situation, will he manage to find new friends?

But los frijoles don't answer. They don't talk or play. They are not jumping beans like Panchito. ~Excerpt

There's a link included in the book, guiding readers online to listen to an audio version of the book, as well as view recipes, a parent's page, and more. The audio version allows children and parents to hear the correct pronunciation of the Spanish words as they read along.

Curiosity leads to knowledge, and educating our young ones on cultural and language differences provides a great opportunity for growth. (The younger the better!) This book provides a wonderful opportunity to learn commonly used Spanish words, phrases, customs, and activities, while being entertained at the same time.

Where is Panchito? (¿Dónde está Panchito?) ~Excerpt

I love children's books that are educational. With interactive activities, learning opportunities, and an adventurous tale, this book holds much more than just entertainment value. Parents might learn a thing or two from this book as well. ¡Fantástico! I received a complimentary copy.

Cinco estrellas

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### **Jessica Adams says**

This book was a very fun way to introduce my two daughters to Spanish in our homeschool. I took Spanish in high school, as well as in college. Sometimes I'll say Spanish words to my kids, and they got an interest in the Spanish language. "Hola! Let's Learn Spanish...." was a great book to introduce my kids to the language in written form, as well in audio form. There are many of the words and phrases I remember learning first back in high school. We loved the cute little jumping bean, Panchito. This book really makes learning a new language fun! It was really great to have the audio version of the book on the website since my Spanish can be rusty at times! The good thing about it was that the author, Judy, read the English words, and then a Spanish speaking woman read the Spanish parts. There was a pause in between the English word and Spanish word for kids to repeat the words. There were chances for repetition for kids to practice the Spanish words and phrases.

We will definitely be using this book throughout our homeschooling journey to practice Spanish words and phrases. I think it would be great if the author would write more books to expand on the Spanish language for homeschooling families. We think it's a great resource and a fun way to learn!

Disclaimer: We won this book in a giveaway and we are voluntarily sharing our review for others to know about this great book.

Jessica D. Adams, Author

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### **Ronyell says**

***I would like to thank the author Judy Martialay for providing me a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.***

Now, I have read many children's books that dealt with teaching children about foreign languages, but I had never read a children's book where a term would be phrased in English and then be translated into Spanish in the same sentence and author Judy Martialay has certainly created an intriguing story that combines both Spanish and English terms in her book "Hola! Let's Learn Spanish: Visit New Places and Make New Friends!"

Basically, this book teaches children about Mexico and its culture and language, which their language is Spanish. There is also a story woven in this book that stars a small Mexican jumping bean named Panchito who wanted to find new friends that he could play with and he ends up journeying through the marketplace and winds up at a piñata party!

***What will Panchito discover at the piñata party?***

***Read this book to find out!***

Judy Martialay has done an excellent job at creating a book that would help children understand not only about the language of Mexico, but about its culture as well and I have always enjoyed children's books that try to teach children about foreign cultures and how to pronounce their languages at the same time. I had a lot of fun in trying to pronounce the Spanish verses for the English verses, such as "Hola" meaning "hello" in Spanish and "Los Frijoles" meaning "beans" in Spanish and I loved the way that Judy Martialay had the English verse being spoken first and then the Spanish translation for that verse coming right after the verse such as this phrase "Look! Miren!" as it helps children see how that English verse is translated into Spanish. Judy Martialay's artwork is extremely cute to look at as the characters are rendered in scratchy and simple outlines and I enjoyed the images of Panchito himself as he is shown as a jumping bean who has stick like legs and a small hat that he wears in each panel.

The reason why I gave this book a four-star rating was because I felt that the pacing was a bit too slow at times and I sort of wished that the story moved at a faster pace in introducing us to the world of Mexico.

Overall, "Hola! Let's Learn Spanish: Visit New Places and Make New Friends!" is a great book for children in learning about Mexico and their language Spanish and would be a great book in helping children understand foreign languages! I would recommend this book to children ages three and up since there is nothing inappropriate in this book and the Spanish language is introduced in a way that would be easy for smaller children to understand.

**Review is also on: Rabbit Ears Book Blog**

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