

# Smiles & Butterflies

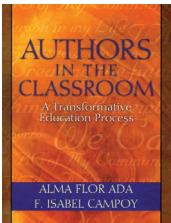
Words of inspiration for teachers

Alma Flor Ada & F. Isabel Campoy • American Reading Company

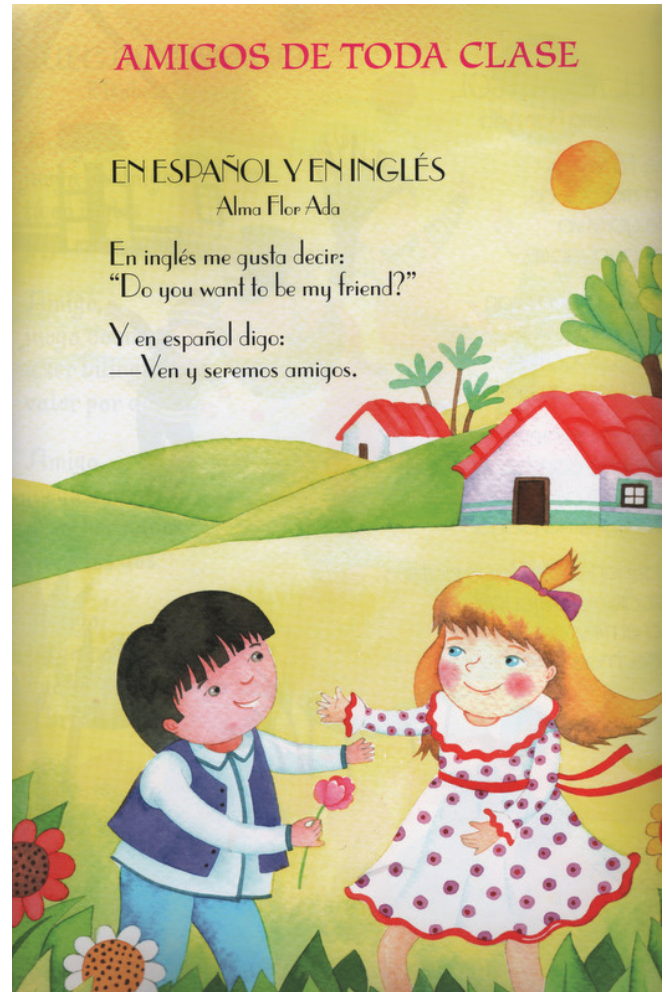


## Authors in the Classroom Book of “I Can”

For this long-term project, invite your students to complete one page a day with a sentence or paragraph about what they can do in life. Students may begin with simple action verbs: *I can run, jump, read, play the trumpet.* As they listen to your own statements, they will move to more complex sentences: *I can listen with an open mind, I can put myself in the place of others, I can say kind words...*



For the theory that informs this practice, and multiple examples, see Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy. *Authors in the Classroom: Transformative Education Experience.* [Allyn & Bacon]



## Home/School Interaction Family Book of “I Can”

The family can create a *Book of Things We Can Do* in which family members share what they can do to improve or strengthen family relationships and offer each other support.

## Cultural Enrichment

Music is an essential part of the life of Latinos. A wide variety of instruments have been created within the Hispanic culture. Spain has given to the world the original six-string *guitar*, which was introduced to the Americas in the sixteenth century. Many instruments have evolved from the guitar, including the *charango*, a small stringed instrument first created in South America using the shell of the armadillo and 10 strings. The indigenous music of the Andes, Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia, and the northern regions of Argentina and Chile employs various wind instruments, like the *siku* or *zampoña*, *quena*, *antara*, and *ocarina* to create evocative music sometimes accompanied by different types of drums, like the *bombo*, *tinya*, and *wancara*.

## Inspiring Words

*There is beauty all around us!*

*Go for a walk with a friend!*

Alma Flor Ada & F. Isabel Campoy



## Books, CDs, & Videos



### CD: *Cuéntame un cuento [Spanish]*

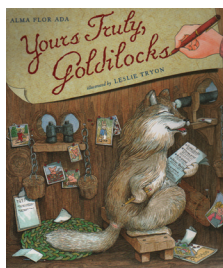
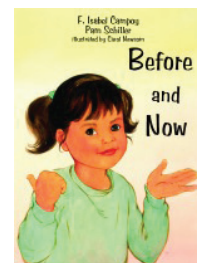
Traditional stories “The Three Little Pigs,” “Jack and the Beanstalk,” and “Little Red Riding Hood” have been retold by Alma Flor Ada in verse form. Suni Paz has created marvelous music turning these stories into precious songs. Two of Alma Flor and Suni’s signature songs, “*Cuéntame un cuento de hadas*” and “*Los libros son mis amigos*” are also included.

- Have students discuss why books are precious friends.
- Create a classroom book entitled *Books Are Our Good Friends* and have each student contribute a page with a personal statement.

### *Before and Now* and *Antes y ahora* [separate editions]

Written in first person, this is the story of young children who are getting ready for kindergarten; they share all they have learned to do and things they didn’t know before. The bold illustrations make this book an excellent vehicle for language and concept development.

- Invite children to reflect about things they can do.
- Ask them to remember how they learned some of the things they now can do.



### *Yours Truly, Goldilocks* and *Atentamente, Ricitos de Oro* [separate editions]

This book, written in letter format, is a companion to *Dear Peter Rabbit* and *With Love, Little Red Hen*. The very detailed illustrations by Leslie Tryon provide multiple clues students will enjoy discovering. The letters allow new stories of beloved characters to unfold. These books are perfect to introduce letter-writing or to refine existing writing skills.

- Invite students to write letters: to fairy-tale characters, to characters in their favorite books, to authors. We do respond.

## Explore With Us

Books and CDs by Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy can be obtained from [www.delsolbooks.com](http://www.delsolbooks.com).

Visit [www.almaflorada.com](http://www.almaflorada.com) and [www.isabelcampoy.com](http://www.isabelcampoy.com) and send Alma Flor and Isabel your comments on their books, CDs, and DVDs.

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