

# Smiles & Butterflies

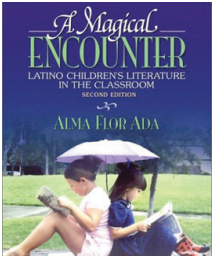
Words of inspiration for teachers

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



## A Magical Encounter

### An Author Study



Students will feel a closer connection to books by understanding the people who create them. This should lead to their understanding of themselves as authors. After selecting an author to study, encourage students to:

- Identify and read as many books by the author as possible.
- Learn about the author's life.
- Watch a video by the author.
- Prepare specific questions to ask the author, then search for answers to the questions.
- Impersonate the author individually or as a group and provide answers to questions about the author.
- Write a letter to the author sharing what they have learned and their reaction to the author's work.

For the theory that informs this practice, and multiple examples, see Alma Flor Ada. *A Magical Encounter: Latino Literature in the Classroom*. [Allyn & Bacon]

**Hispanics, Latinos**  
*Alma Flor Ada*

We live in the United States.  
We speak Spanish.

We are Dominicans  
and Venezuelans.

We are Salvadorans  
and Puerto Ricans.

We are Colombians  
and Ecuadorians.

We are Uruguayans  
and Paraguayans.

We are Cubans  
and Mexicans,  
Mexican-Americans,  
and Chicanos.  
And much more.

We claim with pride  
all that unites us:  
our language,  
our heritage,  
our culture.  
As Latinos, Latinas,  
or Hispanics,  
we are proud of all we share.

Hispanics, Latinos by Alma Flor Ada, from the book *Laughing Crocodiles*.

## Cultural Enrichment

Latin America's fine literary tradition expands through centuries and genres. Among the poets, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, writing in Colonial México, was followed by the Modernists José Martí (Cuba) and Rubén Darío (Nicaragua) at the end of the nineteenth century and in the twentieth century by the world-recognized César Vallejo (Perú) and Nicolás Guillén (Cuba), Nobel Prize winners Gabriel Mistral and Pablo Neruda (both from Chile), and Octavio Paz (México). The extraordinary Latin American creators of narrative in the twentieth century include Alejo Carpentier (Cuba), Borges and Cortázar (Argentina), Juan Rulfo and Carlos Fuentes (México), and Nobel Prize winner Mario Vargas Llosa (Perú). Latino authors of narrative in the United States include Isabel Allende, Julia Álvarez, Villaseñor, and Oscar Hijuelos.

### Inspiring Words

*To wish for the probable takes no imagination,  
To wish for the possible requires no courage.  
Dare to wish for what has been deemed impossible!*

Alma Flor Ada & F. Isabel Campoy



## Home/School Interaction

### Family History

Encourage students to ask their parents or relatives to tell them the family history as far as they can go.



## Special Holiday Offer: Free Autographed Book

Alma Flor Ada and Isabel Campoy would like to send you an autographed book as a gift. Please send them a message about how you have used in the classroom, or shared with a child, any of their books, poems, or songs. Send your message at [www.almaflorada.com](http://www.almaflorada.com).

## Invitation

Isabel Campoy has launched a remodeled new website. Please visit her Photo Gallery at [www.isabelcampoy.com](http://www.isabelcampoy.com).

## American Reading Company Seeking Full-Time Bilingual (Spanish/English) Executive Coach

We are seeking a bilingual (Spanish/English) educator with successful experience using 100 BOOK CHALLENGE and/or Research Labs and/or ACTION 100 who is passionate about helping other teachers and principals implement these programs across the country. The desired candidate should live somewhere within the radius of Philadelphia that includes Baltimore; Washington, DC; and New York City. This is a position with lots of growth potential in a triple-bottom line, socially responsible company.

### Responsibilities:

- Act as an Executive Coach for principals to ensure effective program focus and implementation.
- Conduct workshops, demonstration lessons, and one-to-one coaching visits to support schools' implementation of American Reading Company (ARC)'s programs in both Spanish and English.
- Collaborate with other ARC Coaches and Program team to ensure that materials, methods, and programs in both English and Spanish are the best they can be.

### Requirements:

- Language fluency for speaking, listening, reading, and writing in both Spanish and English
- Personal experience implementing 100 BOOK CHALLENGE and/or Research Labs and/or ACTION 100.
- Demonstrated leadership ability, e.g., experience as a teacher leader or coach
- Commitment to life-long learning and development
- Flexibility and ability to adjust priorities when necessary
- Excellent organizational skills
- Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing with principals, teachers, and co-workers in both English and Spanish
- Some travel
- Master's degree or higher

### Salary:

- Competitive compensation

Please email resume and cover letter to [hr@americanreading.com](mailto:hr@americanreading.com)

## 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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READING COMPANY**