

RECURSO GRATIS • NIVEL PRINCIPIANTE

La nueva vecina

A friendly A1 story about introductions, small acts of kindness, and finding community in a new place.

READ

MEET

BELONG

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ANTES DE LEER

Get ready

Carla and her son move into a new apartment. Read to discover how one simple invitation helps a new place feel like home.

Before you begin

What can you say when you meet a new neighbor? Write two ideas.

Meet Carla**CARLA**

Carla is 34. She moves from Texas to Oregon with her eight-year-old son, Leo. She is excited, but everything around them is new.

Reading goal

Notice the polite phrases people use to introduce themselves and offer help.

THE STORY · PART 1

Boxes everywhere

Carla opens the door to her new **apartment**. There are boxes everywhere.

‘This is our new home,’ she tells Leo.

Leo looks out the window. ‘I do not know anyone here.’

Carla feels the same, but she smiles. ‘We can meet people.’

They carry a heavy box into the kitchen. Suddenly, someone knocks on the door.

A woman is standing in the **hallway**. She has short black hair and a warm smile.

‘Hello. My name is Maya. I live **next door**,’ she says.

‘Nice to meet you. I am Carla, and this is my son, Leo.’

Maya holds a small plate. ‘I made some cookies. Welcome to the **building**.’

‘Thank you. That is very **kind**,’ Carla says.

Maya sees the boxes. ‘Do you need any **help**?’

Carla points to a large box. ‘Can you help me move this to the bedroom?’

‘Of course,’ Maya answers.

Together, they carry the box down the hall.

THE STORY · PART 2

A small invitation

While Carla and Maya unpack, they talk.

'Where are you **from**?' Maya asks.

'We are from San Antonio, Texas. How about you?'

'I am from Portland. I have lived here for six years.'

Leo sits quietly at the table. Maya notices him.

'My daughter Emma is eight, too. She is at the **playground** now,' Maya says.

Leo looks up. 'Does she like soccer?'

'She loves soccer. Would you like to meet her?'

Leo looks at Carla. Carla nods.

The three walk outside. The playground is behind the building. A girl is kicking a red ball.

'Emma, this is our new **neighbor**, Leo,' Maya says.

Emma smiles. 'Do you want to play?'

'Yes!' Leo answers.

The children run across the grass. Carla watches them and feels less **nervous**.

Maya points to a small table near the playground. 'Our neighbors meet there on Saturday mornings. You are **invited**.'

THE STORY · PART 3

A place to belong

On Saturday, Carla makes sweet bread. She and Leo walk to the table outside.

Several neighbors are there. Maya **introduces** them.

‘This is Mr. Chen from apartment 4. This is Rosa and her baby, Ana.’

Carla says, ‘Hello. It is nice to meet you.’

Mr. Chen offers her coffee. Rosa asks about Texas. Emma and Leo play with the red ball.

Carla shares the sweet bread. ‘This is a recipe from my mother,’ she explains.

Everyone tries it.

‘It is delicious,’ Rosa says.

The neighbors talk, laugh, and exchange phone numbers. Mr. Chen tells Carla where the bus stops. Rosa gives her the name of a nearby grocery store.

‘If you need anything, please **knock** on my door,’ Maya says.

Carla looks around the table. Two days ago, the building felt strange. Now she knows six names and has a new friend.

On the way home, Leo takes Carla's hand.

‘I like our new home,’ he says.

‘Me too,’ Carla answers.

A kind welcome, a little help, and one **invitation** make their new community feel like home.

Sometimes belonging begins with hello.

Words for neighbors

Find each bold word in the story. Read the full sentence again before checking the Spanish meaning.

apartment	apartamento
hallway	pasillo
next door	al lado / puerta contigua
building	edificio
kind	amable
help	ayuda / ayudar
from	de / proveniente de
playground	parque infantil
neighbor	vecino/a
nervous	nervioso/a
invited	invitado/a
introduces	presenta
knock	tocar la puerta
invitation	invitación

COMPREHENSION

Check your understanding

A. Choose the best answer

1. Where does Maya live?

- a) Next door b) In Texas c) Near the school

2. What does Maya bring?

- a) Coffee b) Cookies c) A red ball

3. Who is eight years old?

- a) Carla and Maya b) Rosa and Ana c) Leo and Emma

4. When do the neighbors meet?

- a) Saturday morning b) Friday night c) Sunday afternoon

5. What does Carla share?

- a) Sweet bread b) Soup c) Coffee

B. True or false

1. Carla moves from Oregon to Texas. **TRUE / FALSE**

2. Maya helps Carla carry a box. **TRUE / FALSE**

3. Emma does not like soccer. **TRUE / FALSE**

4. Mr. Chen explains where the bus stops. **TRUE / FALSE**

5. Carla feels at home at the end. **TRUE / FALSE**

C. Complete the introduction

Use: **name • meet • from • live**

1. My _____ is Carla.

2. Nice to _____ you.

3. I am _____ Texas.

4. I _____ next door.

COMPREHENSION

Think and use English

D. Answer in a complete sentence

1. Why does Leo feel unsure in the new apartment?

2. How does Maya welcome Carla?

3. What do Leo and Emma have in common?

4. What useful information do the neighbors share?

5. What makes the building feel like home?

E. Introduce yourself

Write 4 sentences: your name, where you are from, where you live, and one thing you like.

ANSWER KEY

Review your work

A. Multiple choice

1. a 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. a

B. True or false

1. False 2. True 3. False 4. True 5. True

C. Complete the introduction

1. name 2. meet 3. from 4. live

D. Suggested answers

1. He does not know anyone there.
2. She brings cookies and offers to help.
3. They are both eight and like soccer.
4. They share the bus stop, grocery store, and phone numbers.
5. The welcome, help, introductions, and invitation create belonging.

KEEP GOING

Practice: Hello, my name is _____. I am from _____. Nice to meet you.

ENGLISH MADE CLEAR. PROGRESS MADE REAL.