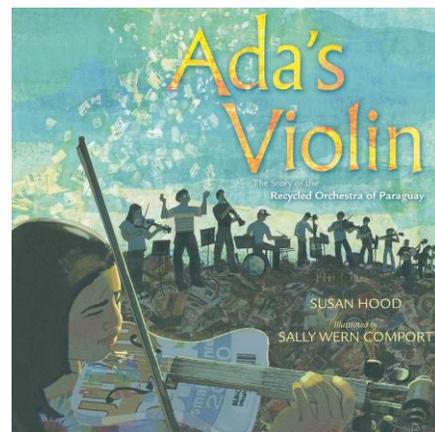


Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay

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Summary

Ada is a young girl growing up in a dirty city in Paraguay. She watches as trash is piled high near her run-down home. Music is the one thing that unites Ada, her family, and her community. Ada's grandmother helps Ada join music classes, but Ada is disappointed when there are not enough instruments for all students. That didn't stop these determined musicians! The instructors and students began making their own instruments from the trash in their neighborhoods. Soon enough, the students successfully learned how to play their instruments and the Recycled Orchestra was born.



Learning Invitations

Calculations in Cateura
Paraguay and the World
Travel Adventure
Connections
El Español

Standards Addressed

Geography

- 5.3.1 - Demonstrate that lines of latitude and longitude are measured in degrees of a circle, that places can be precisely located where these lines intersect, and that location can be stated in terms of degrees north or south of the equator and east or west of the prime meridian.
- 6.3.10 - Explain the ways cultural diffusion, invention, and innovation change culture.

Language Arts

- 5.RL.2.3 - Describe two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or play, drawing on specific details in the text, and how they impact the plot.
- 5.W.3.1 - Write persuasive compositions in a variety of forms.

Math

- 5.AT.5 - Solve real-world problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with decimals to hundredths, including problems that involve money in decimal notation.
- 5.M.1 - Convert among different-sized standard measurement units within a given measurement system, and use these conversions in solving multi-step real-world problems.

Teacher Notes

This inquiry should begin with a read aloud of *Ada's Violin*. To investigate further, students will have the chance to explore different invitations and learn more related to the book. The invitations should be set up in a way that suits your class needs. They are intended for partner or small group use. Each invitation includes a folder of information, worksheets, and/or artifacts. All students should have some sort of answer sheet to record responses. The following list contains the materials and artifacts needed for each invitation:

- Calculations in Cateura
 - Materials: None
 - Artifacts: Pieces of cardboard and plastic, a few dimes and nickels
- Paraguay and the World
 - Materials: Atlas, Map #1, Map #2
 - Artifacts: None
- Travel Adventure

- Materials: Travel Agent Tips, Map #3, Map worksheet, Atlas
- Artifacts: Small globe

- Connections
 - Materials: Comic strip paper
 - Artifacts: Small drum and bowl
- El Español – used as example for class demonstration
 - Materials: Word pieces
 - Artifacts: None

Calculations in Cateura

- 1) Ada saw a lot of trash each morning.
 - a) The trucks delivered 1,500 tons each day. How many tons is that per week?
 - b) There are 52 weeks in a year. How many tons of trash are delivered per year?

- 2) 1 ton = 2,000 pounds
 - a) How many pounds of trash are delivered to Ada's city each day?
 - b) How many pounds of trash are delivered to Ada's city each week?

- 3) *Gancheros* (recyclers) would sell anything useful that they found in the piles of trash. Discuss with your partner what things you think would be worth saving.

- 4) The *gancheros* sold cardboard for 5 cents per pound and plastic for 10 cents per pound.
 - a) How much would 8 pounds of cardboard cost?
 - b) How much would 12 pounds of plastic cost?
 - c) How much would 6 pounds of cardboard and 9 pounds of plastic cost?

- 5) What combinations of cardboard and plastic are possible to add up to \$1.00?

Paraguay and the World

1) Do a Place of the Day for Paraguay using the atlas.

2) Use Map #1. Notice that Paraguay is landlocked (it is surrounded by land on all sides).

Discuss these questions with your partner:

- a) Do you think being landlocked has an impact on the amount of trash in the country?
- b) How does being landlocked affect the environment?
- c) What other countries are landlocked in South America?

3) Use Map #2. This map represents the size of Paraguay compared to the US. About how many times do you think Paraguay would fit into the United States? Record your answer on your paper.

4) Think about the video we watched and use what you know about Paraguay's location in the world. Write your ideas for these questions on your paper.

- a) What type of climate (weather) do you think Paraguay has? To help you with this question, think about your biome knowledge and what you know about South America.
- b) How have the citizens adapted to their environment?

Travel Adventure

- 1) Read the Travel Agent Tips. Using these tips and other facts you know about Paraguay, write a paragraph to convince a friend to visit the country.
- 2) Use Map #3. Identify the lines of latitude and longitude on the map. Which lines of latitude/longitude is Paraguay's capital, Asuncion, located on?
- 3) Use the map worksheet to draw the route that the Recycled Orchestra took on their tour.
 - a) You will need to check the atlas to know where to label the cities.
 - b) When you finish mapping the route, draw those countries' flags on your map.

Connections

- 1) Which learner profiles and attitudes did Ada and her community have? Find at least 2 profiles and at least 2 attitudes, then explain your choices. Write your ideas on the paper.
- 2) How does the setting impact this book? How would the story be different if it took place in a different setting? Discuss this with your partner.
- 3) Imagine that you had the chance to meet Ada. What questions would you ask her? Write at least 3 good questions.
- 4) This is a long story with many details. Make a comic strip using no more than 6 scenes to show the plot of the story. Only think about the most important parts and be creative by using words and pictures!

El Español

1) We learn the Spanish language at school. Why do you think University wants you to learn Spanish? Which other languages would you like to learn if you had the chance? Discuss with your partner.

2) This chart has some common Spanish words. Use this chart and the Word Pieces to make at least 3 sentences. Write your Spanish sentences on your paper

English	Spanish
My	Mi
I like	Me gusta
I don't like	No me gusta
My brother	Mi hermano
My sister	Mi hermana
He/she likes	Le gusta
He/she doesn't like	No le gusta
To play (an instrument)	tocar
Instruments	Los instrumentos
Violin	El violín
Guitar	La guitarra
Trumpet	La trompeta
Flute	La flauta
Drums	Los tambores
Piano	El piano
Cello	El violonchelo
Tuba	La tuba

Place of the Day

This is a geography activity that students do a few a times a week, and they already know how to do this activity. They use the atlas to find the following information:

Country: Paraguay

Continent:

Capital:

Population:

Something Interesting:

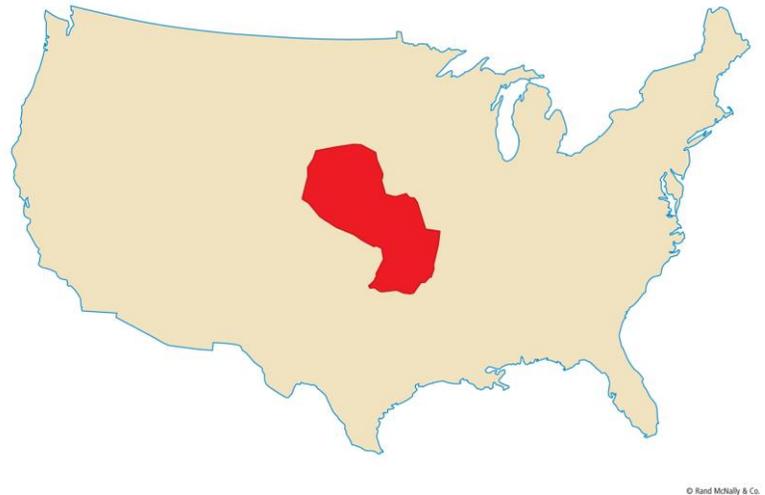
Coordinates:

which is less/greater than the United States.

Map #1



Map #2



Travel Agent Tips

*This was a separate document – here is a screenshot



Come see Paraguay's national football team compete against another country! In many European and South American countries, our "soccer" is called "football" or "futbol." This is a must-see on your visit!

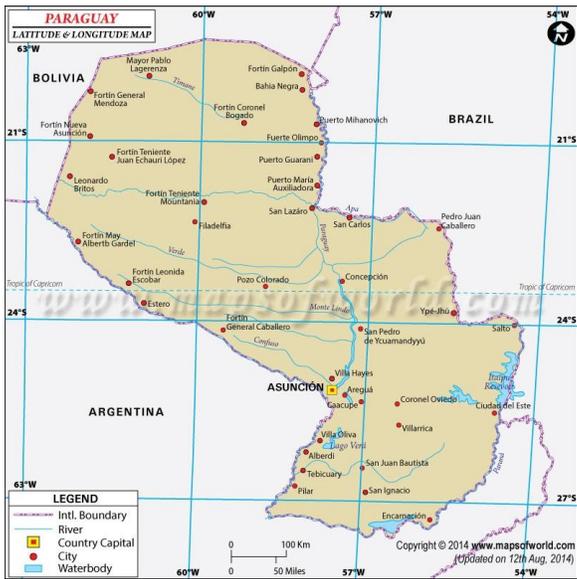
Paraguay's capital city, Asuncion, is a beautiful tourist destination! The streets are filled with historical sites and colorful hand-made items sold by local people. You can't miss this city!



The border where Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil meet is called the Triple Frontera. Here you can find the Iguazu Falls! They are beautiful waterfalls that always attract many visitors.



Map #3



Map Worksheet

*This was a separate document – here is a screenshot

Name: _____

MAP WORKSHEET



Cities on Tour

- Cateura, Paraguay
- Asuncion, Paraguay
- Rio, Brazil
- Bogota, Colombia

Draw a star * and label each city. Then draw a line with an arrow to the next city.

