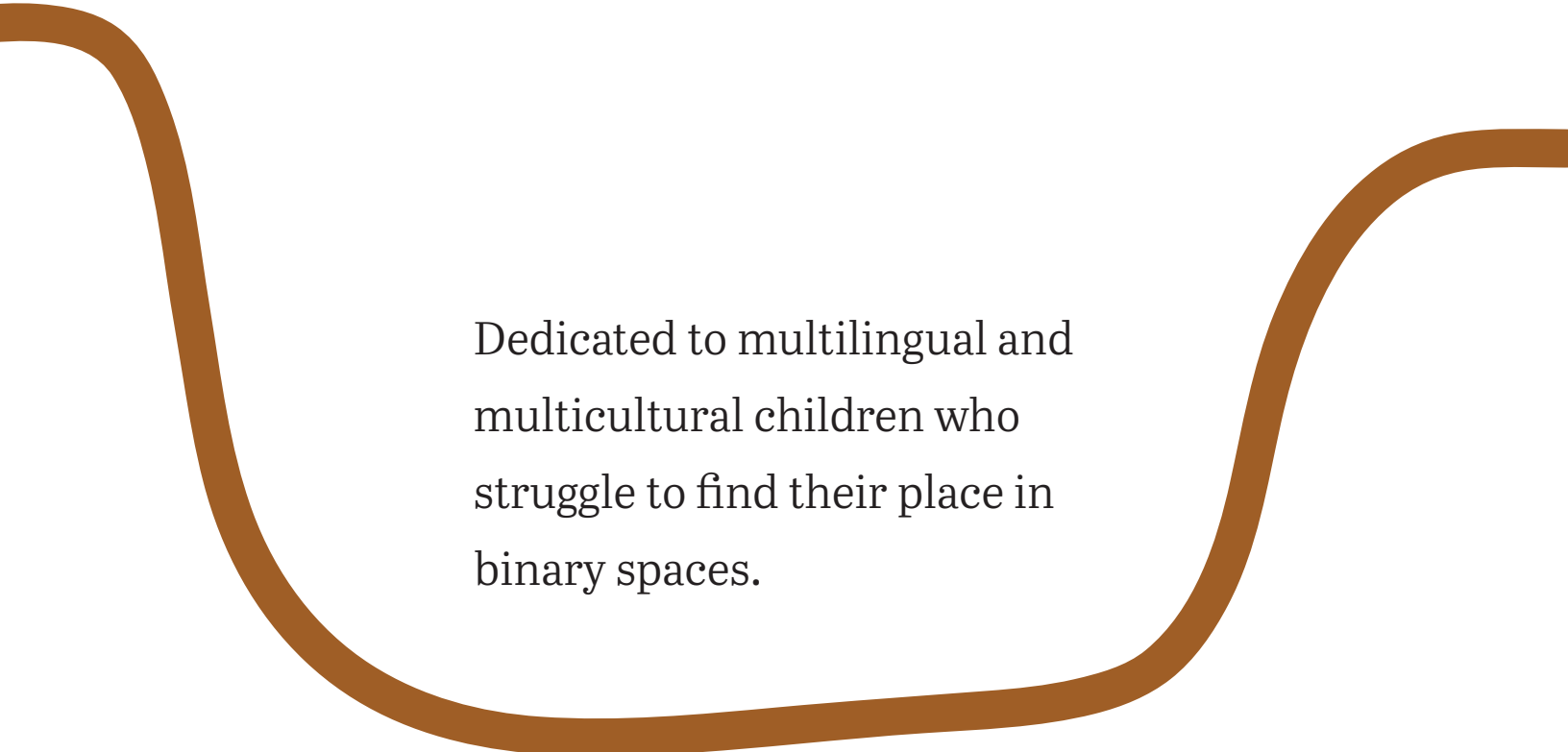




¿De donde soy?

written & illustrated by Nansi Guevara



Dedicated to multilingual and
multicultural children who
struggle to find their place in
binary spaces.

¿DE DONDE SOY?

written and illustrated by Nansi Guevara

When people ask me where I'm from,
The question might seem simple for some,
It isn't for me,
I live between cultures, see.

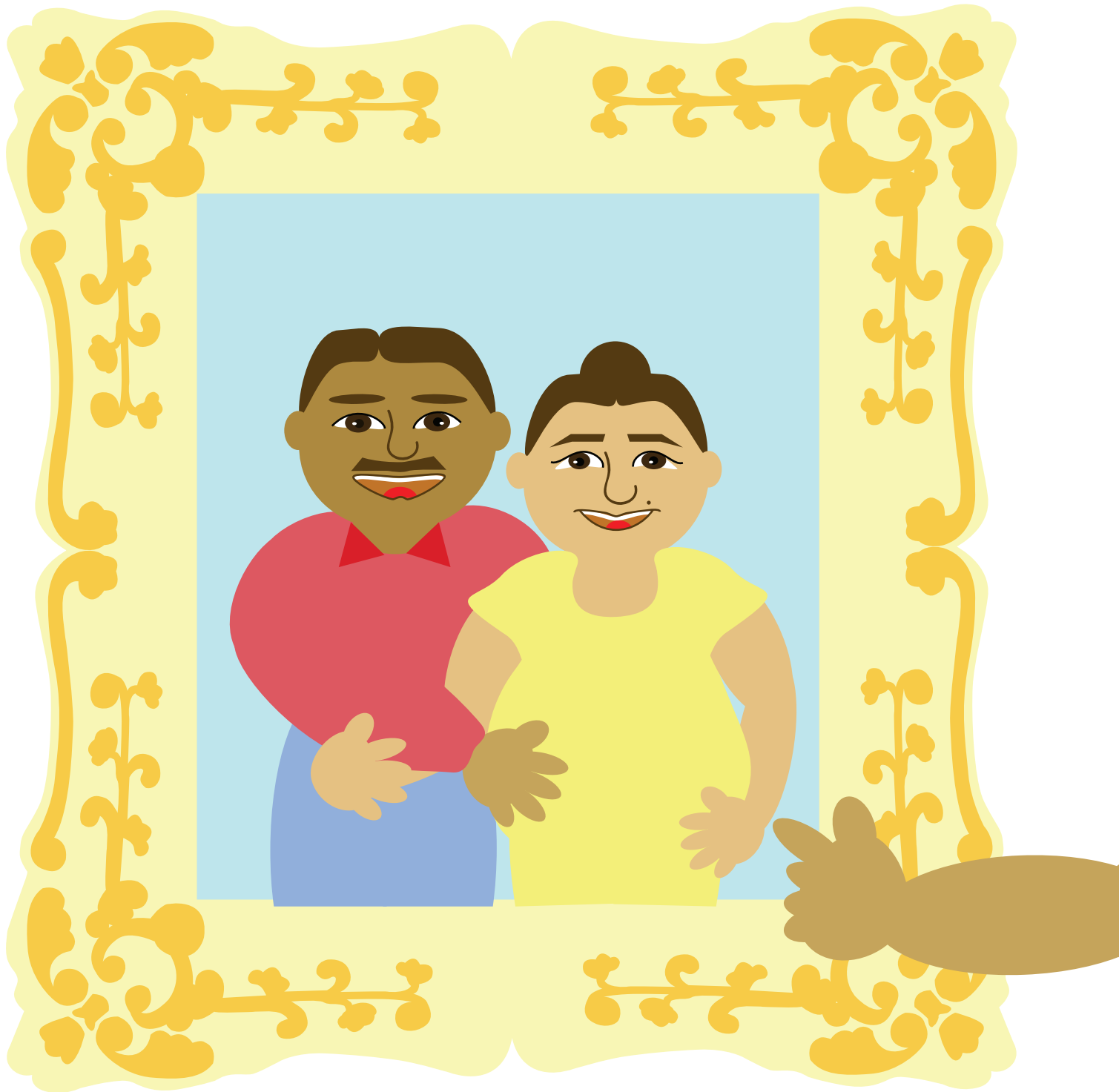




Soy el río,
el agua que une a dos países,
el agua que fertiliza a dos raíces.







Mis papas son de Mexico, el pais del otro lado de aqui,
after a long journey, they arrived here.



then they had me!

Hablo ingles en mi escuela,
y español con mis papas y abuela.



Cuando hablo en español con
mi abuela,
parece que estoy en la escuela,
siempre me corije,
“Mija, asi no se dice...”



Quando vamos a México a visitar,
se mi quita mi confianza para hablar.



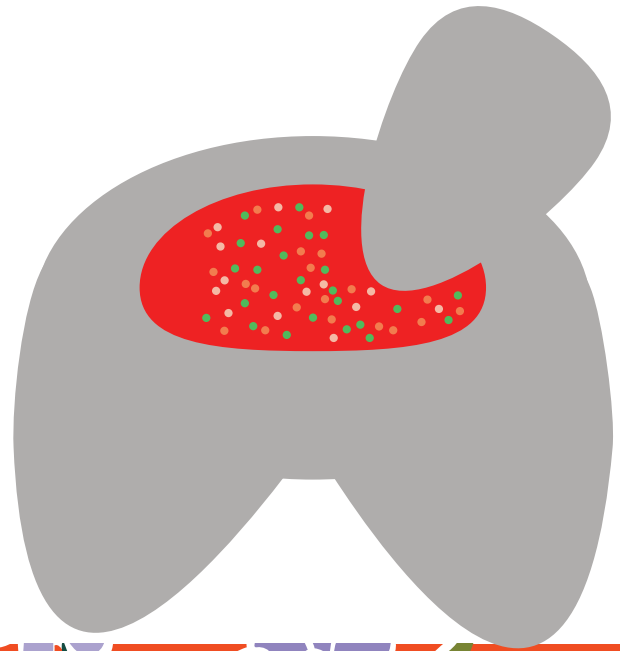
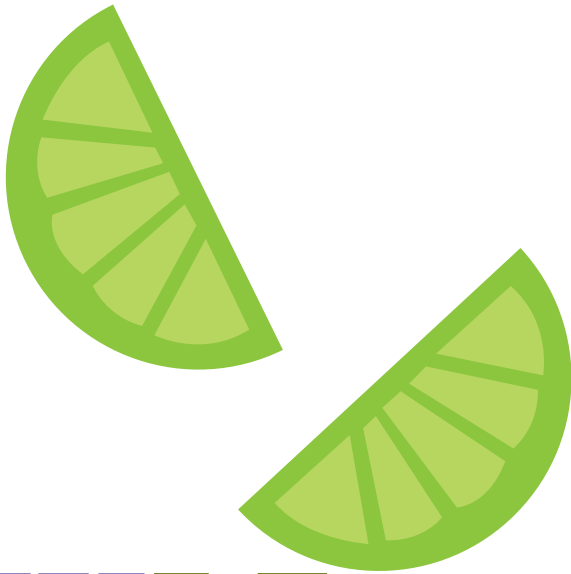
A veces pienso, “no hablo bien en inglés o en español,
pero luego mi papá me dice...

¡Como qué no!

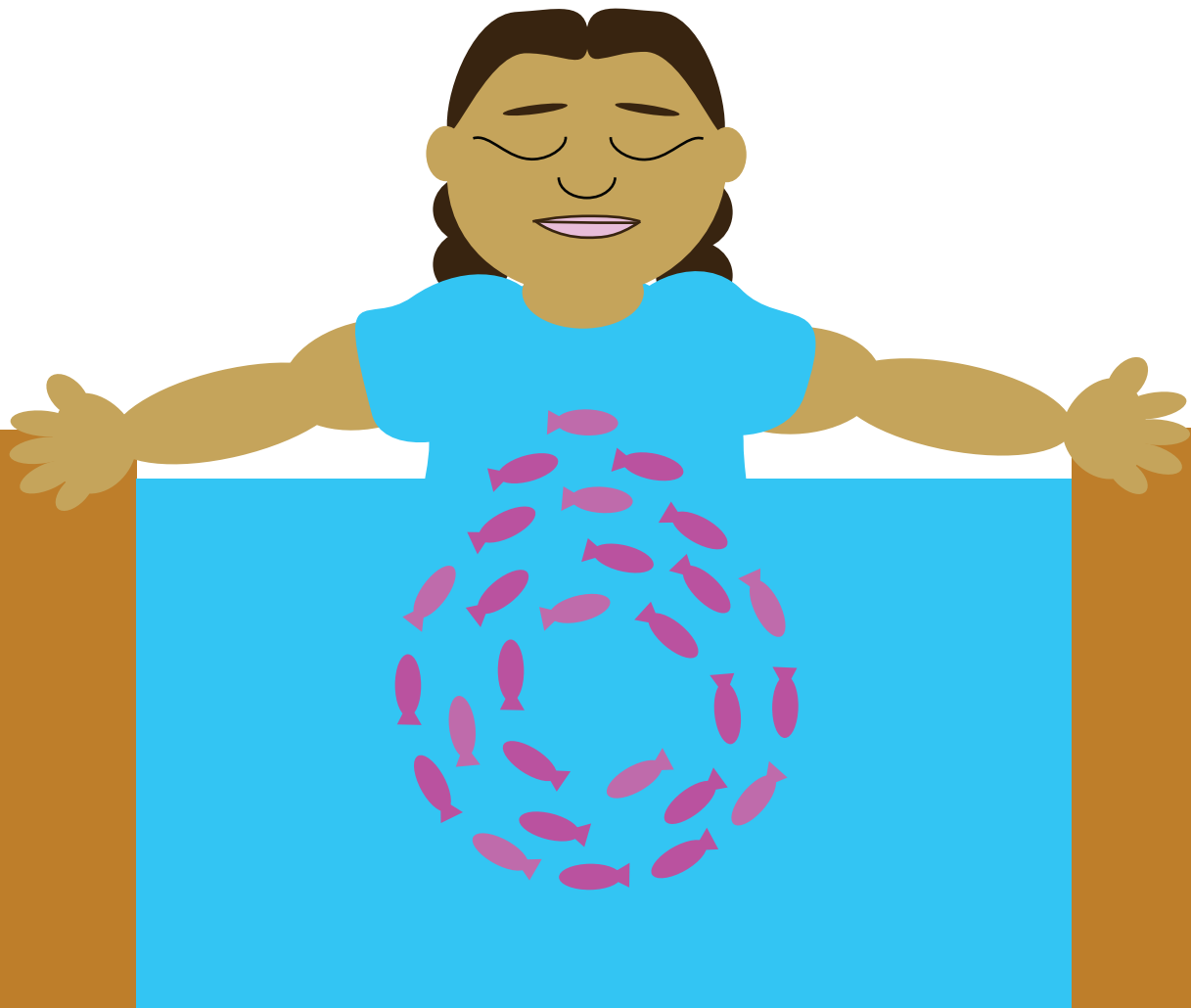


PLACIDO

Tu eres como la salsa y el limón,
le das al inglés y español buen sazón.



Sientes que no perteneces a ningun lado de los dos,
pero, entiende que tu eres un puente que conecta ambos.





rr

¡Es cierto!, mi lengua tiene mucho talento,
pronuncia los dos idiomas con buen acento.

A light blue speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the bottom-left. Inside the bubble, the letters 'rr' are written in a bold, black, serif font, tilted slightly upwards to the right.

rr

A light blue speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the bottom-right. Inside the bubble, the letters 'rr' are written in a bold, black, serif font, tilted slightly upwards to the right.

rr

I like to mix and match words that I've read,
and create new palabras in my head.

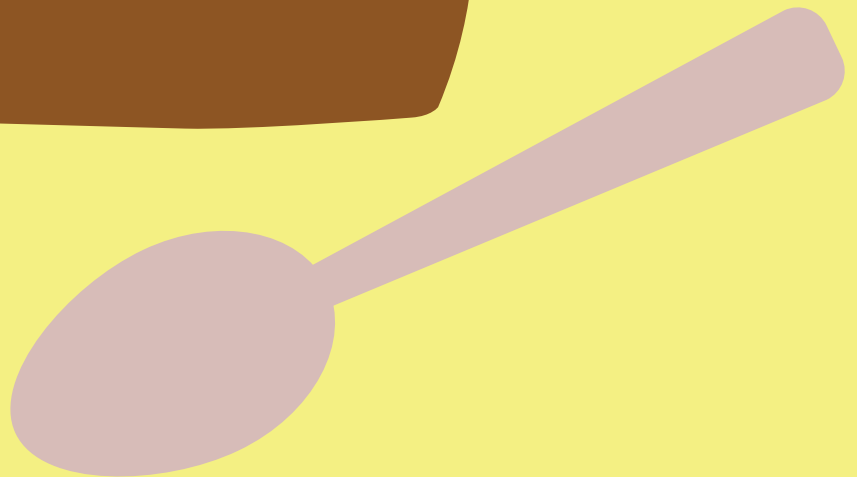
no pos · wow

(wow with extra emphasis)

I can switch from one language to the other,
and I always translate for my mother.



No me gusta escribir en solo un idioma,
cuando intento a traducir las palabras de español al ingles,
no se traducen con la misma aroma.





Me gusta estar entre culturas,
Así tengo muchas aventuras.



Puedo entender a mucha gente de varios países del mundo,
esto me da un punto de vista mas profundo.



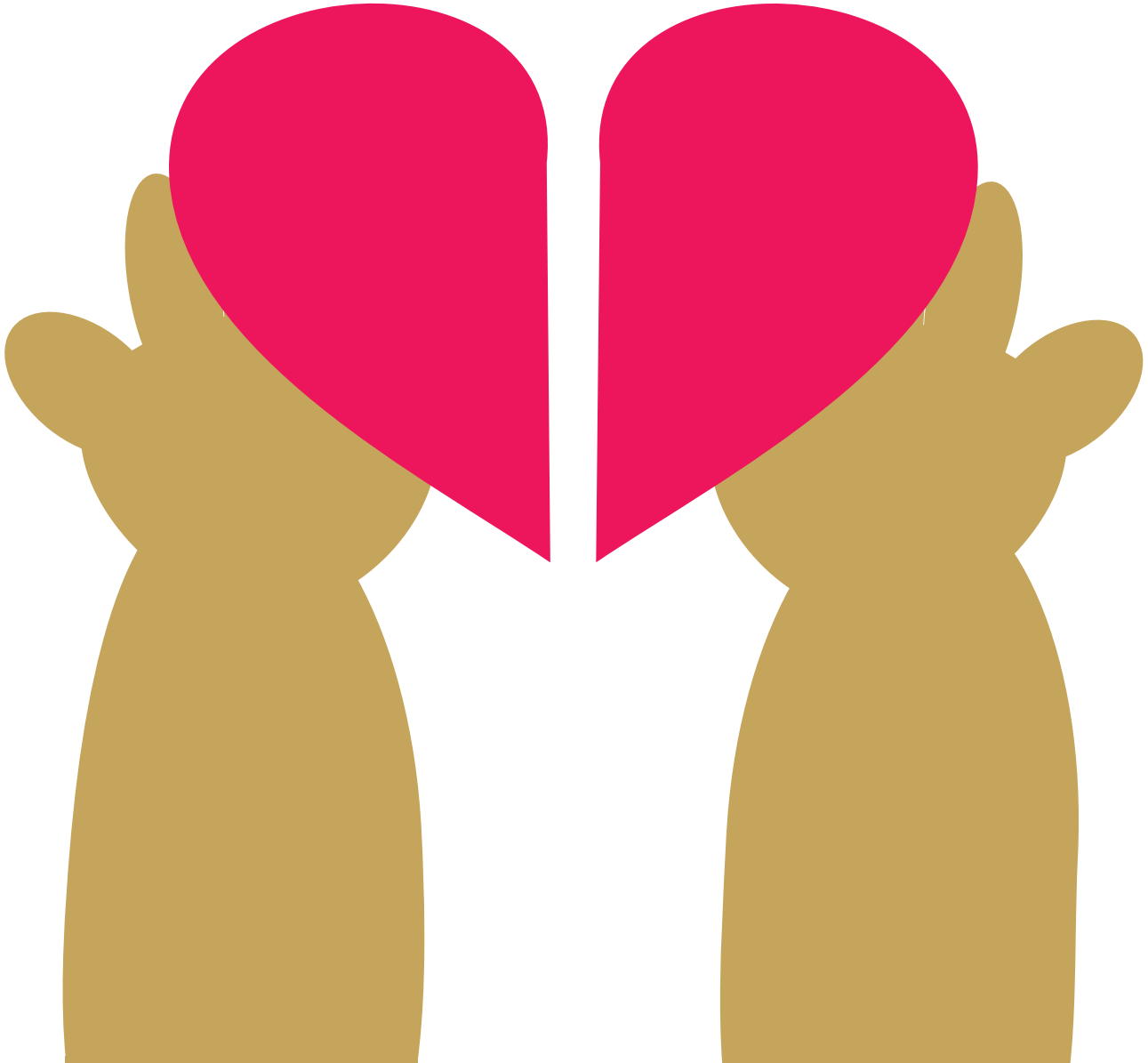
Me siento in-between,
and I don't care to choose a side,
because I embrace both,

My heart is full of pride.



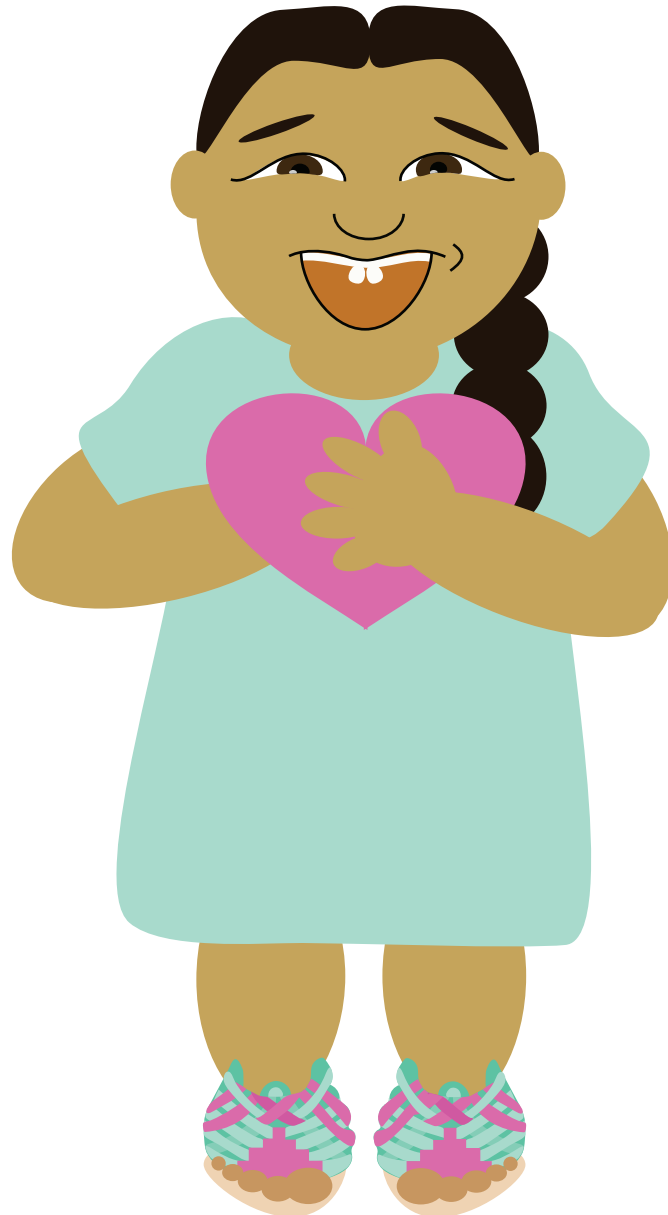


I love both of my cultures.
No puedo vivir sin uno de los dos,
both sides give me so much growth.



Pos,

I am a perfect combination of both.




South Texas Spanglish Glossary

No *pos * wow: Use this expression cuando te sientas beyond surprised, excited, or amazed.

Mija/o/e: This is a little cariño for you, if you hear older people call you this, it's a way to emphasize care. This word is a combination of mi and hija.

Al otro lado: When you live on the border, you are neighbors with an entire other country! In Texas, our neighbor is Mexico, and it is right next to 4 Mexican states, Chihuahua, Coahila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas. Cuando se refieren al lado de Texas, 'our Mexican neighbors say 'al otro lado'. And when Texas folks refer to Mexico, they say 'al otro lado'.



Note to readers:

Sazón: Sazon means flavor. Usually a variety of glorious ingredients and spices that are used in Texas and Tamaulipas.

Pride: Pride is orgullo for where you come from. It is important to feel pride, whether that is a place, where you call home, or feel pride in who you are.

Rio Grande: The Rio Grande is the river that runs in between South Texas and Northern Mexico. The Rio Grande begins in the Southern part of Colorado and runs through the middle of New Mexico down between South Texas and Northern Mexico. It is the main source of drinking water for lots of people who live along her side.

Vecinos: Our vecinos help make our community better. They help us learn about things we did not know about before. We must always welcome our neighbors who come in search of a better quality of life.

Note to readers:

People in South Texas have been speaking Spanglish for more than about 200 years. If you speak Spanglish, you are trilingual! Spanglish is a language that is natural, fluid, and it is part of a long tradition for people who live in South Texas.

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