

Mama's Birthday Present

What is Mama's birthday present?



Francisco ran into the garden.

His grandmother was reading a book.

"Grandma! Grandma!" called Francisco.

"Next Sunday is Mama's birthday!

Mama always surprises me with a party for my birthday. Can we surprise Mama with a party?

"That is a wonderful idea, Francisco," said Grandma. "Today is Monday.

If we begin today, we will have seven days to plan a party."

"Mama always gives me a present for my birthday," said Francisco. "What

present can I give Mama?"

"I don't know," said Grandma. "But don't worry. We can make a piñata to break. Your mama will enjoy that." So Grandma and

Francisco made a piñata.



On Tuesday, Francisco wondered about Mama's present. Francisco went to talk with Papa about Mama's birthday party.

"What present can I give Mama?" asked Francisco.



"I don't know," said Papa. "But don't worry. I can play my guitar. Your mama will enjoy that." So Papa

promised Francisco he would play his guitar.

On Wednesday, Francisco wondered

about Mama's present. Francisco



and his older brother went to

invite Señora Molina to Mama's party.

Señora Molina had a tortilla shop.

"What present can I give Mama?" asked

Francisco.

"I don't know," said Señora Molina.

"But don't worry. I can bring some hot

tortillas, fresh off the stove. Your

mama will enjoy that."

So Señora Molina promised Francisco

she would bring hot tortillas, fresh off

the stove.

On Thursday, Francisco wondered

about Mama's present. He went to

talk to his friend Gina about it.

"What present can I give Mama?" asked

Francisco.

"I don't know," said Gina.



"But don't worry. We can

make confetti eggs to crack on peo-

ple's heads. Your mama will enjoy

that." So Gina and Francisco filled and

painted the bright confetti eggs.

On Friday, Francisco wondered about

Mama's present. So he went to speak

to Grandpa Pérez.

“What present can I give Mama?” asked Francisco.

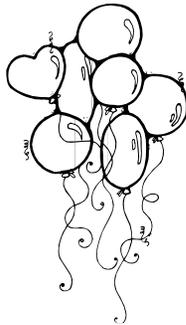
“I don’t know,” said Grandpa Pérez.

“But don’t worry. We can make some sweet buñuelos.”

On Saturday, Francisco still wondered about his present for Mama. But Francisco had many things to do. He helped his brothers and sisters look for a place to hang the piñata.

He talked to Papa about the songs Papa would play on his guitar. He talked to Señora

Molina about the tortillas she would bring. He found a safe place to hide



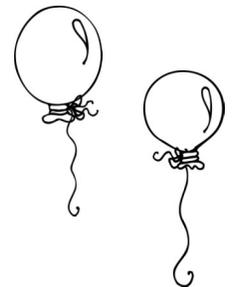
Gina’s confetti eggs and Grandpa Pérez’s sweet buñuelos. Everyone was ready for Mama’s surprise.

On Sunday, everyone came to the party. Mama was very surprised. Papa played his guitar. Señora Molina’s hot tortillas smelled wonderful.

Grandpa’s sweet buñuelos tasted wonderful. Everyone ate and sang and had fun. The children cracked confetti eggs over everyone’s heads. Then they all lined up to take a swing at the piñata.

Everyone looked happy.

Everyone except Francisco.



“Francisco, what is the matter?” asked Mama.

“I did not know what to give you for your birthday, Mama.”

“Oh, Francisco,” said Mama. “This party was the best present you could give me. No, the second best.”

“Second best?” asked Francisco.

“Yes. The best present of all is having my family and friends here with me. That is the most wonderful part of the party!”

Mama gave Francisco a big hug.

Then they all took turns hitting the

piñata. The one who broke it was Francisco. And Mama enjoyed that.

High-Frequency Words

about	enjoy	gives
surprise	worry	would



Selection Words

present	wonderful	buñuelos
tortillas	guitar	piñata
confetti		

