

# DAVID GONZALEZ'S "CUENTOS"

PARENT/CAREGIVER GUIDE  
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Use this guide to jump-start a conversation with your child about the performance they saw recently – not only will you get to learn about what your child experienced, but it will also help them to process and reflect upon the onstage material.



## HERE ARE SOME ELEMENTS OF THE SHOW

Cuentos! Tales from the Latino World features storyteller David Gonzalez, who uses his signature style of storytelling and musical accompaniment to bring a variety of stories to life. The unique show is a tribute to the art of vocal and physical expression.

David does not have props, costumes, or a set to help create the worlds of his stories. Instead he uses his own talents for expressiveness to bring the audience into the tales.

The stories contain characters from the Caribbean and the Bronx and have their origins in Puerto Rican tales, Yoruba stories, and even David's own memories.

David tells the stories in English, integrating contextual Spanish words throughout.

## SOME OF THE SPANISH WORDS IN CUENTOS:

- arboles (ARE-bowl-es): trees
- arco y flechas (AR-ko EE FLECH-as): bow and arrow
- bruja (BREW-ha): witch
- caracoles (car-a-COLE-ayes): seashells
- El Yunque (EL YOON-kay): The rainforest of Puerto Rico
- madera (mah-DAY-rah): wood
- martillo (mar-TEE-yo): hammer
- oro (o-RO): gold
- pajaro (PA-JA-RO): bird
- serpiente (ser-pee-EN-tay): snake
- tambor (tam-BOR): drum

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was the performance about? (Was it based on a book? Did it connect to history? To science?)
- What did the performance make you think about? (Did it spark any new thoughts or give you any new understanding?)
- How did you connect ideas in the performance to ideas or realities in your own life? In your school work? In the rest of the world?
- Can you remember something about the performance that you particularly liked or disliked? If so, what was it and why did it stand out to you?
- Did you have a favorite moment in the performance? Tell me about it.
- What stories do you like to listen to or read? How do you think it will be different to see a story told by one person? How might it be like a movie? How might it be different?
- Why is it important to understand other cultures? How does your background make you different from other people? How does it make you similar?
- What new Spanish words did you learn? Do you remember in which story you heard the word(s)?
- Did you have a favorite story or piece of music?

## THREE NOUNS STORYTELLING

As a group, come up with three nouns.

Everyone takes turns creating a sentence with those three nouns. Alternate the noun giver and sentence makers. An example for the nouns: Orange, woman, store: "The WOMAN was happy because a huge ORANGE was in the STORE."

Use these sentences as story prompts and then share how the stories evolved with different tellers.