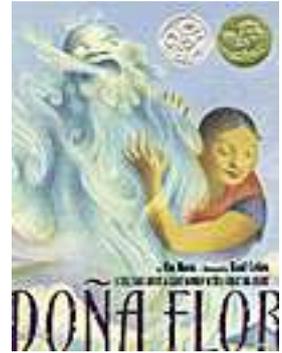


Audience-Participation Poem to introduce young children to:

Doña Flor: A Tall-tale about a Giant Woman with a Great Big Heart



Before reading the poem or having a student, students or audience members read it, practice having them say “more” when you gesture with your hand and having them say “roar” when you show them your claws (hands curved like cat paws). You can also invite the participants to raise their voices more and more when they repeat a word in a line. Pronunciation guide at the end of the poem.

Once a girl named Flor,
kept growing more—and more.

She grew and **grew** and **GREW**, young Flor,
Five feet, six feet—more and more.

Taller than a house was Flor—and more.
Taller than a school was Flor—and more.
Taller than a tree was Flor—and more.
Taller than a *montaña* was Flor—and MORE.

Neighbors called her *Doña* Flor.
Doña Flor, Doña Flor, was nice to everyone—more and more.

She grew giant flowers—and more,
She made humungous tortillas sweet Flor.

Neighbors used her tortillas as roofs—and more,
They even used them as small boats *en el calor*.

“May we have your giant flowers, Doña Flor?”
Kids asked, “May we, *por favor*?”

Then one day, “R O A R!”
Flor’s pueblo heard a loud, “R O A R!”

Her neighbors said, “Doña Flor, please explore
who’s making that terrible “ROAR.”

Flor and her friends heard, “R O A R!”
and “Roar!” And “R O A R!”

With giant steps she marched, our Flor.
She searched for miles and miles—and more and more.

Taller than a house was Flor—and more.
Taller than a school was Flor—and more.
Taller than a tree was Flor—and more.
Taller than a *montaña* was Flor—and MORE.

(pause)

Did Flor find the *gato* with the giant the “ROAR?”
iPor favor! Read the book, not once, not twice,
but more and more.

Glossary

Doña	DOH nyah	title of respect as in Lady Flor
<i>montaña</i>	mohn tah NYAH	mountain
<i>en el calor</i>	ehn ehl cah LOR	in the heat
<i>por favor</i>	por fah VOR	please
pueblo	PWEB loh	village or town
<i>gato</i>	GAH toh	cat

Notes: I didn't italicize “pueblo” in the poem since it's now in an English dictionary. The letter “o” in Spanish is not exactly like our long “o” in English. It's more like the “o” in the word “boat.”

Pat Mora
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