

Jovita Wore Pants: The Story of a Mexican Freedom Fighter

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Change, History Making

Book Brief: Jovita dreamed of wearing pants! She hated the big skirts Abuela made her wear. When her father and brothers joined the Cristero War to fight for religious freedom, Jovita wanted to go, too. Forbidden, she defied her father's rules - and society's - and found a clever way to become a trailblazing revolutionary, wearing pants!

Author:
Aisa Salazar
Illustrator:
Molly Mendoza



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students hear the title. Ask students what the difference is between fiction and nonfiction, and explain this book is a nonfictional story.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they see, think, or wonder about the story.

Vocabulary: [Vocabulary Guide](#)

Prior Knowledge: Ask students if someone ever treated them unfairly. Allow students to share and ask them how they felt.

Purpose for Reading: "As we read this book, think about how Jovita reacts to the injustice that happens to her family."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- How did Jovita feel about the skirts her grandmother gave her?
- Why did Jovita's brothers and father leave their home?
- What happened to Jovita's home?
- What happened when Jovita's father and brothers passed away in the war?
- How did the war end?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: How did Jovita show courage in the book? What does her story tell you?

Extending Our Thinking: How can you show courage in your life like Jovita? Ask students to think about ways they can be courageous in their lives, and then freely write about such an experience where they could demonstrate it.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.