Daddy Christmas & Hanukkah Mama by Selina Alko
Supporting Dual Language Learners with Focus Word Visuals

Purpose: Support dual language learners as they develop vocabulary and story comprehension by briefly introducing the focus words for the Anchor Book with visuals, a child-friendly definition, and connecting the word in English to the word in the home or first language. These DLL visuals have the focus word and child-friendly definition in **English** and in Spanish with the Spanish phonetic pronunciation in parentheses. Use tools like Google translate to listen to the word and practice the pronunciation in Spanish before sharing. If children in your classroom speak another home or first language, ask colleagues or families to help translate the focus words or use online tools to look up the words in this language.

Instructions: Print this document and cut apart the words before sharing the story with your children. Quickly introduce these visual supports before the STATE of the START read saying, "Before reading our story, I want to share some special words you are going to hear in this story." Don't quiz children; just quickly introduce the words and begin the START read. A quick introduction showing the DLL Focus Word Visuals and connecting it to the word in English and the children's first languages will build familiarity with the meaning of focus words.

Checking for understanding: Remember that you are building familiarity by offering this connection between the visual and the word in the first language and in English, but there is no need to quiz children. Listen for and support the children to use the English and the first language version of the focus words as they retell the story and throughout the week as they participate in engagements that integrate this word in authentic conversations across content areas all week! You'll soon hear them using these complex words in meaning-filled and authentic conversation!

Blend/mezclar *(mehs-klahr):* to put two or more things together to make something/mezclar dos cosas diferentes

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Tradition/tradición *(trah-dee-syohn):* a special way you do something over and over again/algo que hacemos siempre de la misma manera

Celebrate/celebrar *(seh-leh-brahr):* to do something special with other people that makes us happy/lo que hacemos con otras personas que nos hace feliz

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Variety/variedad *(bah-ryeh-dahd):* many different kinds of one thing/ muchos tipos diferentes de una cosa

Connected/conectado *(koh-nehk-tah-doh):* everyone matters; our choices change everyone's lives/cuando nuestras decisiones cambian las vidas de los demás

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