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Welcome To Josefina's World: 1824 (American Girl)



Synopsis

Describes the daily life and activities of Mexican Americans in New Mexico during the early 1800s including information about their homes, community, and links to Spain and Mexico.

Book Information

Age Range: 9 and up

Lexile Measure: 990L (What's this?)

Series: American Girl

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: American Girl (October 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1562477692

ISBN-13: 978-1562477691

Product Dimensions: 10.6 x 12 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #104,789 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > Customs, Traditions, Anthropology](#) #472 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States](#)

Customer Reviews

I'm teaching 4th grade and we're preparing for an overnight field trip at an 1830s Rancho. The Ranger suggested Josefina for ideas on costumes for the girls. I am delighted that this book is much more than I'd anticipated. It's not a story, but a beautiful depiction of life on a rancho in the 1820s. It has detailed artwork and photos of daily life including food, shelter, art, religion, travel, chores, tools, disease, celebrations, etc. My students are especially fascinated by the info and photo of smallpox. I thought I would just be getting a fictional adventure of an American Girl doll. This is so much more!

This is the companion book for my American Girl Doll, Josephina Montoya. I didn't even know it was available. It's a great book to share with my little nieces when they come to visit for a play date.

Great Book! Love American Girls Books!!

Nicely laid out book

The "Welcome to" books by American Girl are so nicely done with photographs and drawings. The one for Josefina is no exception.

I use this with my 5th grade class when studying American history -- we learn about English, Spanish, French, and Dutch colonies. There are few resources for the Spanish colonization of what is now the U.S. I never took American Girl seriously until I just got desperate for materials that would give kids accessible, real information on the Spanish (and multicultural) roots of the Southwest. The time period is early 1800s. The information is rich and well researched. The value of this book was emphasized for me when one of my "too cool for you" 5th grade boys came hurriedly back to class during their computer lab time (where they were working on powerpoint presentations related to their New Mexico research), saying, "Ms. Ishikawa, I need Josefina's World! Do you know where it is?" I later got the *Josefina Boxed Set with Game (American Girl)*. The stories are simplistic and predictable, but they do give a flavor for some of the issues dealt with... the treasure, though, is that each has a non-fiction section in the back that goes into one aspect of this time and place, and links the story to the historical content. Unfortunately, after American Girl was bought by Mattel, they stopped publishing Josefina's world. What a loss! I found 6 used copies online after it was out of print.

We bought the MP3 recording of the Josefina story collection for my six year old homeschooling daughter, as we are living on the road and listening to books on tape is a long-lasting, space-compact form of entertainment for traveling. She has listened three times through to the five hour series as we travel through the southwest, pointing out yucca (Josefina uses the roots for soap suds) and rabbit brush and prickly pear, mentioning a spanish word here and there. It has been a highlight of this month for her and she has learned immeasurably from it. We bought this book as a companion to the audible stories - no dolls or other books, just the MP3 and this reference book. And it's a perfect combo, giving her something to refer to as she's listening. We have spent hours looking through this together and it gives her a basis for her own drawings as she listens. I can't recommend this informative series highly enough. We'll be buying the Addie MP3s as we travel through antebellum south next month. She says about this book, "I like it, it's interesting. There's cool different things that we don't do in our life that I can learn about. It's a really fun book and it teaches six year olds about different kinds of lives and different kinds of places."

Arrived as expected.

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