



Laughing Zebra - Books for Children

We go Beyond Reading

Laughing Zebra - Books for Children

A Division of J.O.Y. Publishing

Media Kit

For

Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa

Written by
Rebekha Delgado

Illustrated by
Joy Delgado

Translated by
Julio Delgado

Laughing Zebra – Books for Children

A division of J.O.Y. Publishing

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<http://www.laughing-zebra-children-books.com>

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\$11.95 US

Activity Book ISBN: 978-0-9755454-2-3

\$4.95 US

Teacher's guide ISBN: 978-0-9755454-3-0

\$8.95 US

Available at:

Laughing Zebra – Books for Children

<http://www.laughing-zebra-children-books.com/book-store.html>

Offers free shipping and autographed copies

Amazon.com

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_gw?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=zooprise+party

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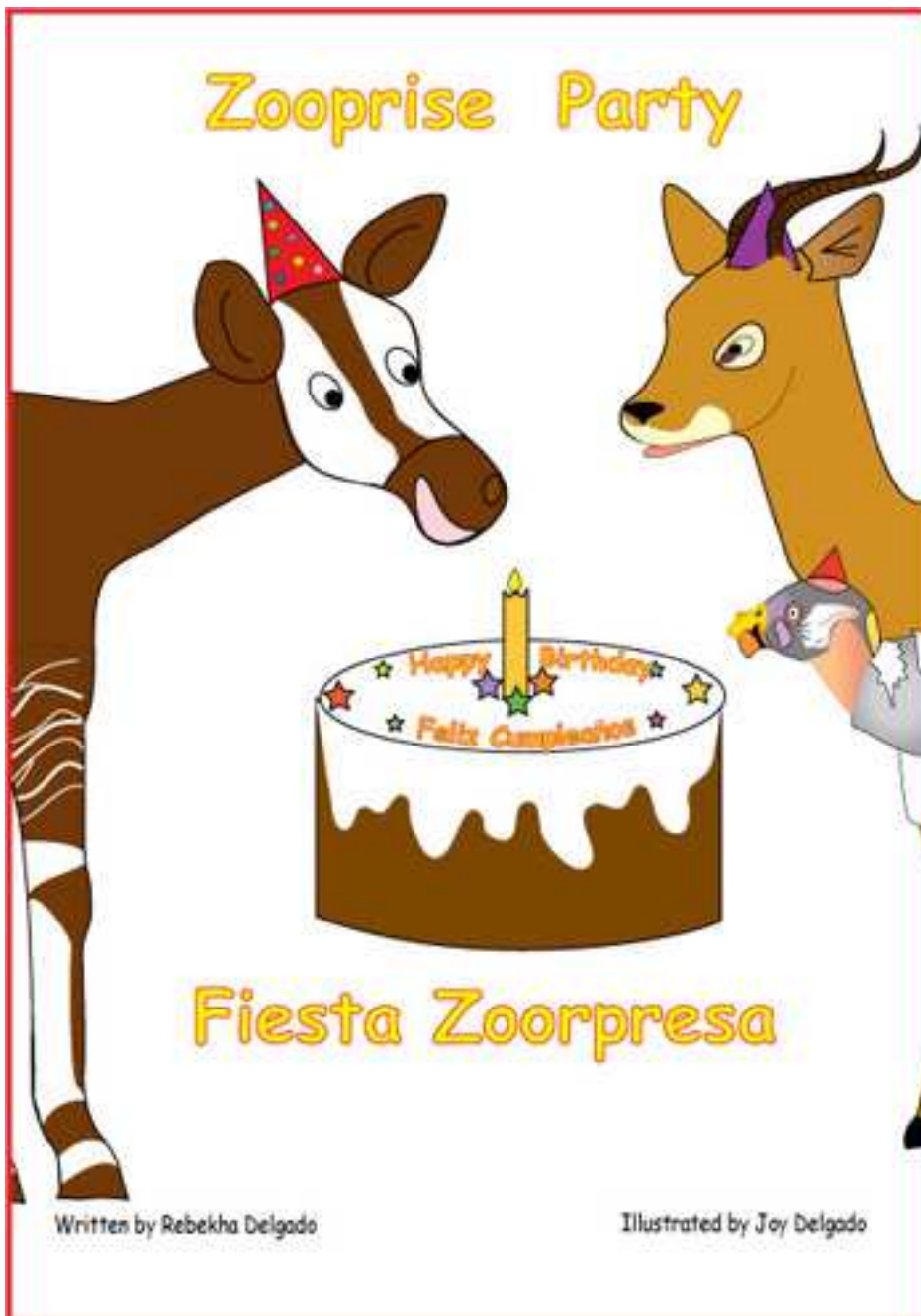
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Book Cover



Zooprise Party

Fiesta Zoorpresa

Written by Rebekha Delgado

Illustrated by Joy Delgado



Rebekha holding a python

About the Author

Rebekha always knew she wanted to spend her life working with animals. She never lost sight of that dream. She started her 'career' working with animals in elementary school by writing about them. One of her poems, 'Wish', was published in a national poetry contest. It is about wishing that she was a wolf, for only a day or two. In high school, she continued to write about animals and even entered her writing in local contests.

After high school she went to the University of Florida where she received her B.A. in Anthropology. She then attended the Santa Fe Community College Teaching Zoo and earned her A.S. in Zoo Animal Technology. While she was there, she wrote *Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa*, and several other stories not published yet.

Upon graduation, Rebekha began working at an AZA accredited zoo in Orlando where she still works today.



Joy Delgado is the mother of two, stepmother of one and 'yaya' to her stepdaughter's two girls.

When it came time to buy presents for the 'girls', Joy and her husband Julio decided to buy them books. But not just any books, bilingual books in English and Spanish. These are the two languages spoken in Puerto Rico where they live. The search was on. What they discovered was that bilingual books are hard to find and when you do find them, they are usually about a particular culture.

Joy asked her daughter Rebekha, who was an accomplished writer for help. Rebekha agreed to write stories for the girls. Joy taught herself how to draw on the computer and illustrated the book and Julio then translated the story to Spanish.

As the 'project' developed, it became clear that this wasn't just a book. This was a book that would help teach a second language as well as inform people about animals that aren't very common. From that realization, Joy developed the Activity Book and the Teacher's Guide to take the book beyond reading.

To see how these books and website work together go to:

<http://www.laughing-zebra-children-books.com>

You can also follow our blog with Zebec the laughing zebra and the rest of the gang at the 'V Zoo' at:

<http://zoopriepartyfiestazoorpresa.blogspot.com/>

Blurbs

10 word

Like animals? Birthday parties? You'll love *Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa*.

25 word

Would YOU like living next door to a group of nosy gerenuks? Join Mori and the gang in this delightful story about zoo animals and surprise parties.

50 word

It's Mori the okapi's birthday. When Sally the zookeeper wishes Mori a Happy Birthday, Lito, the nosiest of the gerenuks, is listening at the fence between the two exhibits.

Follow along as he gets his other neighbor, Elvis the king vulture to help him plan a surprise party for Mori.

115 word

NEWS FLASH!

Nosy Gerenuk Plans Surprise Party for Okapi

Elvis, the king vulture lets all the animals out of their exhibits!

What's going on at the zoo? Is there total chaos?

No. There's a new book in town.

"Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa" has arrived. Written by zookeeper Rebekha Delgado, this fully bilingual book (English and Spanish) appeals to children of all ages.

Join Lito the gerenuk, Elvis the king vulture and the rest of the zoo animals as they surprise Mori the okapi with a birthday party.

•Who plans the party?

•Is Mori really surprised?

Find out in "Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa".

There also is an activity book too to take the story beyond reading.

141 word

How would YOU like living next door to a group of nosy gerenuks?

You would, IF it was your birthday.

In "Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa" it's Mori the okapi's birthday. When Sally the zookeeper wishes Mori a Happy Birthday, Lito, the nosiest of all the gerenuks, is listening at the fence between the two exhibits.

Follow along as he gets his other neighbor, Elvis the king vulture to help him plan and pull off a surprise party for Mori.

Will Mori be surprised? How will all the animals in the zoo get to the party?

Find out in: "Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa" by Rebekha Delgado

This entertaining picture book is fully bilingual, English and Spanish, and there is an activity book and a teacher's guide that can also be purchased

to use in your classrooms to take the story beyond reading.

Activity Book blurbs

55 words

"Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa" Activity Book / Actividades takes the book "Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa" beyond reading. Filled with coloring pages, puzzles, word games and more it makes learning fun. Most pages are bilingual, some are only in one language. The back cover has three bookmarks the children can cut out and share with their friends.

Teacher's Guide and Key Blurb

89 words

Use this Teacher's Guide and Key to take "Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa" beyond reading. Here you will find pre and post reading discussions, language arts, and math activities. There are also art and game ideas as well as science research questions to make up a complete mini unit. Teachers will find the code to a password protected page at the Laughing Zebra – Books for Children website in the booklet. This will give them all the answers to the Activity book pages and links to other sites with useful information.

Review Clips

Here is what people in the zoo world are saying about the books.

“Zooprise Party/ Fiesta Zoorpresa” is a delightful, fresh book that is taking children’s literature to a new level! It will be enjoyed in many parts of the world since it is bilingual (in both English and Spanish languages). Not only educational, this book also comes with a fun Activity book and Teacher’s Guide. Look for more in the “Laughing Zebra” series!

Jack Hanna, Director Emeritus, Columbus Zoo, Host, TV’s “Into the Wild”

* * * * *

“Zooprise Party” is a wonderful children’s book that tells the story of an Okapi who believes that all of his animal friends at the zoo have forgotten his birthday. Author Rebekha Delgado and illustrator Joy Delgado use the story to subtly teach the reader some interesting facts about some unique animals. The best lesson of all for the children who will enjoy this book is that friends come in all shapes, colors, sizes, and backgrounds and that our friends represent some of the most important things in our lives.

Ron Magill, Communications & Media Director Miami Metrozoo

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Other Reviews

Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa grabbed the attention of our 1-3rd graders with it’s ability to entertain and teach at the same time. I’m ordering a classroom set for next year’s second grade class.

Dr. Lourdez Gonzalez, Director Saint Marcos Elementary School, Guyama, Puerto Rico

* * * * *

No preschool or elementary classroom should be without this heartwarming book!

(read full review at <http://tinyurl.com/5utbwo>)

Kathy Stemke Author and teacher

* * * * *

With the cute story, the animal facts, Activity Book, and Teachers Guide (separate purchase), the Delgado’s have compiled an excellent array of activities to keep children entertained and learning at the same time.

(read full review at)

Donna J. Shepherd Author of *Topsy Turvy Land*, *No More Gunk!*, *Dotty’s Topsy Turvy Tale*

* * * * *

Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa will delight and entertain children of all ages. A very simple, straightforward book with a message: friends stick together.

(read full review at <http://tinyurl.com/6awtgx>)

Lea Schizas Award winning Author and Editor

* * * * *

This is a very different book! I've seen some other bilingual books before, but none quite like *Zooprise Fiesta*. The workbook is full of fun pages for children to fill in and do - all accompanying the story and making it "come to life".

(read full review at <http://tinyurl.com/5cl5y7>)

Heidi Strawser – Reviews by Heidi

* * * * *

Zooprise Party by Rebekha Delgado is a book that should be on every young reader's bookshelf, though I doubt it will stay there long because they'll be too busy reading it.

(read full review at <http://tinyurl.com/5r5uxg>)

Cheryl Malandrinos – Reviewer

* * * * *

I thoroughly enjoyed reading "Zooprise Party" to my grandson. The bright clear pictures and the expressions on the faces allowed him to understand more of what was happening in the story. It is a teaching book as well as a fun story.

Susan Jeszenszky

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I thought the book *Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa* was very educational and very easy to read to my three year old son.

Soralis mother of two

Review questions with answers from Joy Delgado

Joy, tell us a little bit about yourself. Where do you live?

At the moment I live in Puerto Rico with my husband.

What do you mean by ‘at the moment’?

Well, we live on a 41’ sailboat, so, for the time being we are in Puerto Rico.

How exciting! That’s sure a different way to live. How long have you lived on a boat?

Lets see, we’ve lived aboard for 5 ½ years now.

Where did you start out and where all have you sailed to?

We started in St. Pete, FL, moved aboard and sailed her to Key West, FL. We were there for three years while my husband was on Active Duty with the Coast Guard. He went back to reserve status and in October of 2006 we set sail for Puerto Rico. Along the way we spent 5 months in the Bahamas, time in the Turks and Caicos and the Dominican Republic. Seven months in all.

Sounds like a great vacation. Do you plan on doing any more sailing?

Yes. We are talking about going to the Virgins (both US and British) for the early part of 2009. then, who knows.

Now, you’re the publisher and illustrator of *Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa* right? How do you plan to manage your business while you’re on the road, or should I say at sea?

Yes, I’m the illustrator/publisher and my husband is the translator. Well, I’m looking into getting lined up with distributors both in Puerto Rico and the US. We are going to ‘test drive’ the idea in the Virgins. If it doesn’t work, we’ll go back to Puerto Rico and try something else. My plan is to be able to do the bulk of my work on the computer and have printers and distributors lined up to take care of the rest. I am new at this, so there will be some trial and error involved.

Interesting. Now I know this book has a special story behind it. Let’s start with what prompted you to create this book?

I have two grand daughters in Puerto Rico. When it came time to buy presents for the ‘girls’, we decided to buy them bilingual books. We speak both languages and feel it’s very important in this day and age to speak at least two languages. So we started looking around. What we discovered was that bilingual books are hard to find and when you do find them, they are usually about a particular culture.

I asked my daughter Rebekha to help out by writing a few stories. I told her I’d teach myself to draw and her dad could translate them into Spanish. She thought this was great, so she sat down and in something like two days I had three stories from her.

Now you have an activity book and a teacher’s guide that go along with this book. What prompted you to add these?

As we worked on the book, people would ask me what made me draw this okapi thing to look like I did. When I had to explain to several people that an okapi is a real animal from Africa, I realized I needed to do something different. So we started with pictures and

some interesting facts at the end of the story. It soon became clear to us that this wasn't just a book. This was a book that would help teach a second language as well as inform people about animals that aren't very common. That's when I decided to develop the Activity Book and the Teacher's Guide, to take the book beyond reading.

Tell us a bit about Rebekha. What kind of work does she do?

Rebekha is a zookeeper, or as she prefers, and animal keeper at a zoological park/resort in Central Florida.

You know, that's one of those jobs that when children go to the zoo that they are fascinated with. Is it as great as it seems?

For the most part, from what she tells us, yes, it's really a dream come true for her. There are certain aspects of the job however that aren't very pleasant, like cleaning the stalls out. She's been there long enough that I don't think she has to do that much anymore.

When did she start to write?

I think it was in about second or third grade. She went to an elementary school that was very pro writing. Each year the students wrote short stories. Then the parents' group took them, printed them out, gave them back to the student to illustrate it and bound them.

What a great school project. So, has she had anything else published?

Yes she did. Some of her poetry was published as part of a National Poetry contest.

What's next? Another zoo story or something else?

Several projects are in the works. Rebekha's second story about a chameleon and a lemur will follow the same format as *Zooprise Party / Fiesta Zoorpresa*. Then we have a textbook-workbook project about animals in their natural habitats. Some of the local schools have asked for this, and I think it's something many schools would be interested in. Of course there are about 20 more stories we've both written that I hope someday will see publication.

Well, thank you Joy for such an interesting interview. I wish you and your family the best of luck.

Thank you for having me here today. It was fun.