



ABOUT THE SHOW

This bilingual musical and THE NEW YORK TIMES Critic's Pick by Mando Alvarado, Tommy Newman, and Jaime Lozano, returns in a reimagined production! Click your heels together tres veces and take a transformative journey with this salsa, merengue, and Mexican folk-infused musical inspired by THE WIZARD OF OZ. As her fifteenth birthday approaches, Dora, a contemporary Latiné teenager, struggles with her family's ideas about tradition and dreads her impending quinceañera! But, when Dora gets swept away to a strange new land, she learns how to celebrate her unique rhythm and embrace her cultural identity.

This companion activity can be done before or after seeing the production and utilizes materials you probably have in your home or classroom. We invite families, educators, and other audience members to use or adapt these activities, which were created for Center Theatre Group by Resident Teaching Artists Christine Breihan and Estela Garcia. You can find a companion activity on the show pages for all productions in our 2024/2025 season.

As you watch EL OTRO OZ, see if you can track how Dora's ideas about home change throughout the story. What makes her perceive her home in a new way?

HOME POEM

FOR AGES 8 AND OLDER

DURATION: 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS

- Something to write with
- Something to write on
- Poem Template

INSTRUCTIONS

In EL OTRO OZ, Dora reflects on her home:

**IT'S NOT A CITY OR A STREET
NOT THE GROUND BENEATH YOUR FEET
OR AN APARTMENT WITH FOUR LITTLE WALLS.**

**IT'S THE SOUND OF A BOLERO
Y BAILAR WITH UNCLE CHELO
ES ESCUCHAR A MI MAMI CANTAR... ES MI HOGAR—**

What does the idea of “home” mean to you? Use the Poem Template to write your own poem.* Use the word bank for ideas or come up with your own words if you would like. If you speak multiple languages, we encourage you to represent them in your poem.

*This template was designed for young writers. If you're a more advanced writer, feel free to ignore the suggestions for adjectives and nouns and fill in the blanks as you see fit.

EXAMPLES

The Order of Things

*Home is the smell of ripe tomatoes.
Home is the sound of clattering pans.
Home can feel empty. It can also feel safe.
Always it is split.
I used to think Home was a person.
But maybe it isn't.
Maybe it is just the taste of dusty books.
When I am far from my home, I wonder,
where do I fit in the order of things?
The world answers with the smell of ripe tomatoes.*

La Casa De Mi Madre

*Home is the smell of tortillas recién hechas.
Home is the sound of the ice cream truck a todas horas.
Home can feel warm. It can also feel chaotic.
Always, it is love.
I used to think that Home was a place.
Pero tal vez no lo es.
Maybe it is just the touch of my mothers tender wrinkled hands.
When I am far from my home, I wonder, if my loved ones are ok?
The world answers with the smell of tortillas recién hechas.*



(title)

Home is the _____ of _____.

(sense) (adjective or noun)

Home is the _____ of _____.

(sense) (adjective or noun)

Home can feel _____. It can also feel _____.

(adjective) (adjective)

Always, it is _____.

(adjective)

I used to think that Home was a _____.

(adjective)

But maybe it isn't.

Maybe it is just the _____ of _____.

(sense) (adjective or noun)

When I am far from my home, I wonder, _____?

(question)

The world answers with the _____.

(sense/adjective/noun from line one)

WORD BANK

Senses

sight, smell, feel,
taste, sound

Adjectives

sweet, salty, sour, dusty, clean, noisy, quiet, soft,
delicious, scratchy, smooth, comfortable, beautiful,
ugly, silly, smooth, cozy, creaky, large, small, messy,
gentle, calm, bright, fluffy, singing, near, far away,
safe, busy, empty, full

Nouns

tree, floor, window, bed, sheet, towel, cooking, cake,
food, fruit, mother, father, brother, sister, sibling,
dog, cat, voice, toy, family, book, flower, radio, TV,
music, hands, wind, rain, cars, bird, water, sun

Question Words

who, what, when,
where, why, how