



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Lucía Moreno

Email: luciamoreno@topka.es

BILINGUAL BOARDBOOKS GIVE YOUNGEST READERS A VIEW OF DIVERSITY

New series of Spanish/English books feature photos of children from different races with (and without) disabilities doing the things they like best

Topka, the independent Spanish publishing house, have brought out a series of three bilingual Spanish/English boardbooks under the "Me gusta/I like" imprint aimed at children up to three years old. The books use the simplest vocabulary to look at the things real children like in the areas of food, movement and having fun. In keeping with the Topka motto of "We want every child to be a hero", the books feature full colour photographs of children from a variety of races, with and without disabilities, resulting in inclusive books which give every child the opportunity to identify with the protagonists.

What do an Asian girl, a blind girl and a boy with Down's Syndrome have in common? Just like all children, they each have their favourite foods, games and activities. Even the very youngest readers will enjoy the pictures in the "Me gusta/I like" boardbooks where these and other children show us the things they like to eat, the ways they like to move, and how they like to have fun.

Written by Laila Laván (author of *Lucy: Loud and Clear*, from the Topka "T-tales" collection), and translated into English by Gwyneth Box, the 14 page bilingual Spanish/English books are produced in 15x15 cm (6x6 in) high quality board and illustrated in full colour with photographs by Abigail Rodríguez. They cost 10€ each and are available direct from the publisher's website at <http://www.topkabooks.com>.

I like to eat / Me gusta comer ("I like" series, nº 1)

ISBN 978-84-935239-6-1

Rice, carrots, cookies... What do you like?

I like to have fun / Me gusta divertirme ("I like" series, nº 2)

ISBN 978-84-935239-7-8

Roller skating, reading, riding your bike... What do you like?

I like to move / Me gusta moverme ("I like" series, nº 3)

ISBN 978-84-935239-8-5

Running, jumping, dancing... What do you like?

Topka believe that a child's life is not limited to their disability, race or biological origin. Nor is family life limited to how many adults there are at home, and whether they are male or female. With this in mind, the main characters in Topka books are different kinds of children who come from different types of family, and the stories deal with the conflicts, situations and dreams which are typical of all children and all families.

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To schedule an interview with Lucía Moreno, the founder of Topka, or for further information about the Topka books, including images (hi or lo-res) please email luciamoreno@topka.es