

Aguaviva

¡HOLA, GUATEMALA!



A STORY ABOUT WATER, FAITH AND SCHOOL

When the Rains Fail, a Village Digs Deeper

Meet Marisol and discover how her village is working together to bring clean water closer to home.

MAP

STORY

PLAY &
PRAY

AUTUMN 2026 | FOR EXPLORERS AGES 6-10

Find Marisol on the map!



Meet Marisol

- **A VILLAGE OUTSIDE MALACATANCITO, HUEHUETENANGO**

"I want to go to school and to be a teacher...but you cannot learn if you are thirsty."

Marisol Ramirez keeps her school notebook wrapped in a plastic bag. Not because of rain. Because of dust.

At six in the morning, Marisol, nine, feeds the chickens and checks the water barrel behind the house. If it is very low, she cannot go to school.

"I want to be a teacher like Seño Claudia," she says. "But you cannot learn if you are thirsty." Marisol lives in Guatemala's Dry Corridor, where the rains can come late, stop early or fall all at once.

Spanish Starters

● hola hello ● agua water ● escuela school ● Seño Mrs./Miss

A Day with Marisol



Before breakfast, Marisol thanks Jesus for food, water and a new day.

FROM MORNING TO EVENING

- 6:00 A.M. Morning at home**
Marisol feeds the chickens, checks the water barrel and gets ready for school. Her family eats breakfast together before the day begins.
- SCHOOL Learning with friends**
She walks to school with friends and studies with Seño Claudia. Reading is her favorite because she hopes to become a teacher.
- AFTERNOON Helping her family**
After school, Marisol finishes her work, helps at home and spends time with her friends.
- EVENING Together again**
Her family shares the day's news, prepares for tomorrow and prays together before bed.

FAITH AT THE TABLE

Before anyone takes the first bite, Marisol and her family pray.

MARISOL'S BREAKFAST PRAYER

"Dear Jesus, thank You for this food and for the water we have today. Please care for families who are still waiting for clean water. Help me learn, help me share and help our village grow strong. In Your name, amen."

TRY IT What would you thank God for today?

At Marisol's Table



A GUATEMALAN BREAKFAST

A traditional breakfast often includes black beans, fried plantains and warm corn tortillas.

ASK MARISOL

Q: What do you like best about school?

A: Reading stories and helping my friends. I want to help other children learn someday.

Q: Who encourages you?

A: My family, Seño Claudia and the people at our church. They remind me that God has a purpose for me.

Q: What do you pray for?

A: That every family will have clean water and every child can go to school.

COMPARE BREAKFASTS – Draw or Write

Marisol's breakfast in Guatemala

My breakfast in the United States

WHAT IS THE SAME?

WHAT IS DIFFERENT?

SPANISH AT BREAKFAST

● desayuno
breakfast

● frijoles
beans

● plátanos
plantains

● gracias
thank you



**"You cannot learn
if you are thirsty."**

The Village Makes a Plan

**A public tap brings safer water
closer to families.**

The families in Marisol's village were not waiting for someone else to solve the problem. Pastor Abelardo of Iglesia Principe de Paz began Saturday meetings where parents named what they needed most: clean water, food through the dry months, and help keeping children in school.

Aguaviva came to listen. Together, the church, a community water committee and the village school made a plan that fit their home. Rainwater tanks catch water from the church and school roofs. A protected spring feeds a pipe to a public tap. Filters make the water safer to drink.

TRY IT: COUNT YOUR WATER

How many times do you use water today? Make a tally for drinking, washing and brushing your teeth. Which uses could you never skip?

Spanish clue: contar means "to count."

Marisol's family grows corn and beans. When the rains fail, crops do not grow well, water barrels empty and children can become sick or hungry. That makes learning much harder.

Parents and students also grow drought-tolerant crops behind the school. The garden helps provide the daily refacción, or mid-morning snack. The work is not finished, but Marisol has not missed a day of school since the tap opened. Her notebook no longer needs its plastic bag.

"Every child here is made in the image of God," Pastor Abelardo says. "We are building a place where children know their worth."

From Rain to Cup

- 1 Rain falls on a roof.
- 2 A tank stores it.
- 3 A filter cleans it.
- 4 A family fills a cup.

Guatemala Activity Page

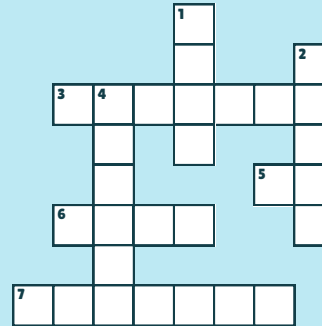
SPANISH MATCH

Draw a line from each Spanish word to its English meaning.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ● agua | A garden |
| ● lluvia | B rain |
| ● escuela | C friend |
| ● jardín | D water |
| ● amigo | E school |

Bilingual Crossword

Use English and Spanish words from Marisol's story.



Across

- 3 Spanish: school
- 5 Spanish: faith
- 6 English: maíz
- 7 Spanish: church

Down

- 1 Spanish: water
- 2 English: agua
- 4 English: escuela

WATER-WISE CHALLENGE

Circle the choices that save water.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ● Turn off the tap while brushing. | ● Tell an adult about a leak. |
| ● Leave the water running. | ● Reuse water for plants. |

FAITH CONNECTION

Living Water

"Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst." John 4:14

Jesus met a woman beside a well and showed her that God saw her and loved her. Clean water helps our bodies live and grow. Jesus gives us hope that reaches even deeper.

PRAY: Dear God, thank you for water. Please send steady rain, help Marisol and her friends learn, and guide the families and churches working together. Amen.

HOW GIFTS HELP

- **WATER**
Tanks, protected springs and filters
- **FOOD**
School gardens and strong seeds
- **LEARNING**
Supplies and help staying in school

Ask a grown-up how your family can pray, share or give.