

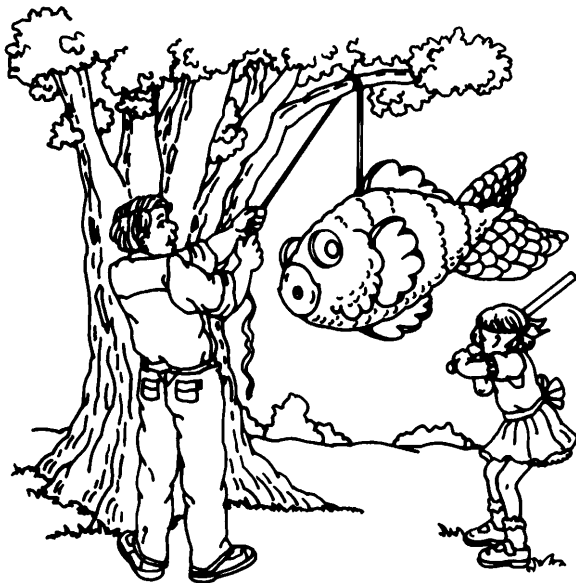
# Family Times

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Summary

### Artist Shares Family Memories

While growing up in a Texas town near the Mexican border, Carmen Lomas Garza dreamed of becoming an artist. Now her colorful art paints a vivid picture of this time in her life—from hitting piñatas at birthday parties to making tamales in her parents' kitchen, with everyone pitching in.



## Activity

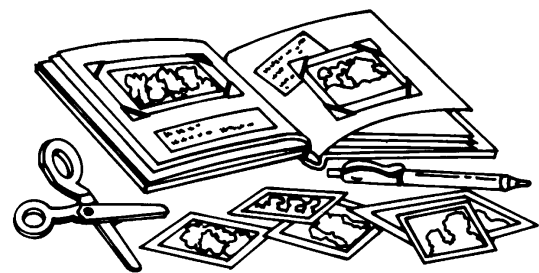
**Share Family Stories.** Have your child tell you about his or her favorite “scene” from the story and tell why it is so appealing. Then take turns telling favorite stories from your family’s past.

## Reading Skills

### Author’s Purpose

An **author’s purpose** is the reason or reasons an author has for writing. Authors usually don’t tell their purposes, or reasons, for writing. You have to figure them out. Four common purposes are to inform, to entertain, to express, and to persuade.

The author of *Family Pictures* gives readers information when she describes growing up in Texas. She expresses herself when she tells how she felt about seeing a huge shark caught at the beach. Through words and pictures, readers are entertained by her story.



## Activity

**Your Own Family Pictures.** Draw pictures or use photos to make a family picture album. Write a paragraph about each picture, keeping in mind what your purpose is. You may wish to entertain, for example, by telling a funny story about the picture.

# Family Times

## Tested Vocabulary

### Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *Family Pictures*. Practice using these words to learn their meanings.

**border** boundary or edge

**future** what is to come

**handkerchief** soft piece of cloth used for wiping the face, nose, and so on

**inspired** filled with thought or feeling

**involved** took in; included

**laundry** clothes to be washed

**memories** all that a person remembers

## Grammar

### Imperative and Exclamatory Sentences

A sentence that tells someone to do something is called a **command**, or an **imperative sentence**. The first word is usually a verb. The subject, *you*, is not shown but it is understood. **Grab a basket**. Some commands start with *please*. **Please help me pick oranges**. Commands usually end with periods.

A sentence that shows strong feeling is called an **exclamation**, or **exclamatory sentence**. Exclamations end with an exclamation point. **These oranges taste great!**

### Activity

**Sentence Toss.** Toss a coin. If it lands “heads” up, the tosser says a command for someone to follow. If it lands “tails” up, the tosser says an exclamation.

## Tested Spelling Words

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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