

Lesson #12: *Esperanza Rising* Discussion Questions

Discussion Questions: [Standard 3, Benchmark 3](#)

1. After a childhood of wealth, Esperanza was a strong character. How and where did she learn to be strong?
2. What did Esperanza choose to take with her from Mexico? Why did she choose that and why did she later choose it to give away?
3. What do you think will happen to Esperanza next? How will she handle the future?

Activities:

1. Choose a country or if you know from where your family came to America, research how people from that country traveled to the United States. Questions you could answer include; how much could they bring with them, where did they settle and what did they do when they got there? Make a map of the route they would take.

[Standard 1, Benchmark 4](#)

2. Make a model of Esperanza's home. Did you choose her home in Mexico or her home in California, or both?

[Standard 5, Benchmark 3](#)

3. Research and write a newspaper article on the unions and strikes during the depression.

[Standard 1, Benchmark 5](#)

William Allen White Children's Book Awards

<http://www.emporia.edu/libsv/wawbookaward/curriculumguides/cg02-03.html#esperanza>