

# THE HELM

## CONNECTION & TOOLS

CASCO LEARNING COLLABORATIVE



## The Power of a Story

WRITTEN BY MARIA J. CASCO

Captivate. Connect. Inspire. Then repeat!

There is nothing more powerful to entice children into wanting to know more than the power of a story.

From historical events to courtesy lessons and everything in between, stories allow us to introduce concepts to our children in a way they are familiar with, absorbing new information.

"Have I ever told you the story of how ..." or  
"Did you know that one time this happened..."

And my biggest pro tip? Add a dramatic voice to really draw them in!

Through stories, we can connect with our children in a unique way that doesn't come across as another "I told you so" lecture. Because let's be real, those are still going to make a necessary appearance.

Our children learn to tune us out when they are being bombarded with constant redirection and correction. It is just a part of their growing reality. So how do we really get their attention? To really get them to listen and process what we want them to hear? With a story!

It is a simple yet effective tactic that will be sure to leave them wanting to know more.

The secret, however, is to really sell your story; the more convincing of a storyteller you are, the more they will connect with you!

### PARENTING HELM

Connection & Tools



This month we are touching on connection to the world and to our children through travel and experiences.

As we reflect on what we wish to teach our children, storytelling is highlighted as a powerful tool to allow us to connect in a more natural and effective way!

# The World is Our Classroom

WRITTEN BY JENNA M. HILL

## What is World Schooling?

Worldschooling is a state of mind! It's education through travel.

And at CASCO, we believe learning happens everywhere! This is why we deliberately included travel into our educational model.

Worldschooling opens your child up to the world beyond the four walls of their classroom and teaches them through experiences by doing, being, touching, smelling, and feeling.

It is about collective experiences!

When we step outside of our comfort circles to travel to unknown places, we experience something together. We connect as we connect with the world and to the people, we meet along the way.

Travel sparks something in us!

As we see the world, we understand each other more. Travel teaches us perspective; it teaches us to ask questions, observe, and seek connections to humans around the globe.

Travel teaches empathy and compassion.

And the best part, we learn alongside our children! We are equal as we share our experiences.



## Our Favorite Books to Expand Children's Perspective

### 1. **This is How We Do it** by Matt Lamothe

*The book follows eight fictional children from the countries of the United States, Peru, Italy, Uganda, Russia, Iran, India, and Japan. It highlights what type of dwelling they live in, their family structure, what they wear, what they eat, how they go to school, how they learn, and how they play, among other cultural differences.*

### 2. **Children Just Like Me: A new celebration of children around the world** by DK

*Forty-four children are featured from six continents. Together the individual stories show how kids around the world are in some ways similar but also uniquely different.*

### 3. **Everybody Cooks Rice** by Norah Dooley

*A young girl discovers that although the families from her community are from a different country, everyone enjoys rice dishes at dinnertime. Readers will enjoy trying the simple recipes that correspond to each family's unique rice dish.*

### 4. **People** by Peter Spier

*Small vignettes fill each page, illustrating the wonderful variety that exists among peoples of different cultures and races.*

### 5. **Material World: A Global Family Portrait** by Peter Menzel

*Although this book is dated (published in 1993), it is one of the best visual representations of how wealth and material possessions vary around the world. Families from thirty diverse countries are highlighted- each story beginning with a photograph of the family standing outside their home with all (or at least most) of their possessions alongside them.*

**NOTE: Check out the new CASCO Bookshelf now live on our website. We will be sharing books along the way as we discover new children's books, parenting resources, and so much more, for you to enjoy at home!**

