

Excerpt from ***Mama and Papa Have a Store***  
Amelia Lau Carling



Mama and Papa have a store, a Chinese store in Guatemala City. They sell buttons, ribbons, thread, and cloth. They sell paper lanterns, plastic balls, firecrackers, and perfume. Needles, white gloves, tablecloths, bottles of soy sauce—there's everything in my parents' store. It smells of flowers and of the freshly swept moist sawdust they use for cleaning the tiled floor.

Mama knits without looking down and talks with the customers in Spanish. They call her *doña Graciela*. But in Chinese her name means Lady Who Lives in the Moon.

Papa at his desk adds and subtracts with his abacus. He is *don Rodolfo* in Spanish, and in Chinese his name means Fragrant Pond.

1. Look at the picture and reread paragraph 1. What are some items sold at the store?
  - a. buttons, ribbons, thread
  - b. hats, t-shirts, jackets
  - c. sneakers, boots, sandals
  - d. cereal, bread, milk
  
2. Which of the following is **NOT** true about Mama and Papa's store?
  - a. The store has a tiled floor.
  - b. The store only sells sewing materials.
  - c. The store smells like flowers.
  - d. The store's customers speak Spanish.
  
3. Why do Mama and Papa both have a Spanish and a Chinese name? What else do we learn about their identities? Use details from the excerpt to explain your thinking.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Add an illustration to show your ideas about the setting and characters in this text.

