

# Nathasha, from Venezuela to Chile

Arica, Chile







**Nathasha, from Venezuela to Chile**

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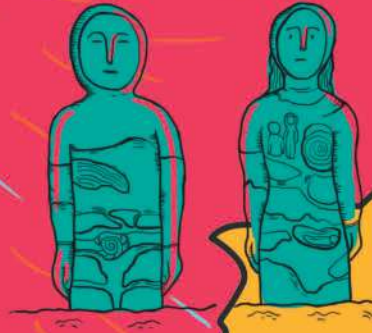


VENEZUELA

South  
America



# Chile



Arica and  
Parinacota Region







**Boys and girls are always the same** at every time and place: curious, playful, energetic, affectionate, enthusiastic, creative. It is the environments they are born into and grow up in that give them a part of their personal identity, and allow them to share unique experiences with children from other countries.

To discover different realities and celebrate the cultural diversity expressed in traditions, environments and experiences is the goal of this book collection, created by the Junta Nacional de Jardines Infantiles (National Board of Preschools) in conjunction with the Bernard van Leer Foundation. *Children of the World* invites preschoolers, their families and their teachers to discover various ways of life and ways of being a child, through stories and a great variety of photographs from different corners of the globe.

Plentiful rivers, stilt houses, cocoa seeds, wild animals, leafy plants, joyful dances, ancestral rites, children's journeys after their parents' immigration; all are part of the scenes that this collection of stories displays, seeking to enchant adults and children alike and to send the message of diversity as something to respect and share.

**Adriana Gaete Somarriva**

*Executive Vice-president*

National Board of Preschools (JUNJI, by its Spanish acronym)



**Today's world needs stories** that allow us to recognize and value the richness of diversity in all its facets. The *Children of the World* collection, by the Junta Nacional de Jardines Infantiles (National Board of Preschools), is a wonderful tool for sharing stories about children's harmonic coexistence in various contexts and cultures.

Human beings require moments of leisure, of plenitude, of enjoyment of free time. This collection of stories is a unique opportunity to create these spaces and form magical connections between educators and children. These moments of relating through stories are crucial for personal growth, for sharing with family and friends, for strengthening our community life and enhancing our children's capabilities from an early age.

Here at the Bernard van Leer Foundation, we firmly believe that the best investment we can make is that in children under five years of age. It is for this reason we have worked all over the world for seven decades in over 50 countries, seeking to provide a better start for all children's lives. We trust that in Chile these stories will help strengthen the bonds between adults and children, and that they will help broaden the scope in regards to the lives of children in different corners of the world.

**Cecilia Vaca Jones**

*Program Director*

Bernard van Leer Foundation







ARICA



**“Hello! I’m Nathasha Lozada Tamiche,** I’m 3 years old and I live in the city of Arica, Chile, with my mom, dad, grandpa and little brother. I like Arica a lot, but I wasn’t born here; I was born in Valencia, in my dear Venezuela.”



**“My mom’s name is Joyce** and my dad’s name is James. They were born in Venezuela too, but they decided to leave to look for better opportunities. That’s why we’ve lived in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and now in Chile, where we’re finally staying. I don’t remember those first trips, because I was just a baby,” says Nathasha, pensive.



**“When we came to live in Arica,** we found out that my little brother, Edwing, was in my mom’s tummy. Since he was born in Arica, he’s Chilean. My brother is very cute, I love him a lot, we laugh and play together but we also fight, and my parents tell me not to do that,” Nathasha adds.

“The arrival of our little Edwing was a tremendous joy for us, and a beautiful sign of hope for our family,” says Nathasha’s mom excitedly.





**From Monday to Friday**, Nathasha wakes up very early to go to *Ardillitas* preschool. Her parents help her wash her face, brush her hair, get dressed and ready her backpack, while Edwing watches.

“My brother goes to preschool too, and he has a very good time there because he learns and plays. My teachers are Giordana, Ximena and Edith. I love the three of them very much because they show me pictures, we dance and we sing,” says Nathasha.











**Nathasha's mother** is a civil engineer, but she works in a cafeteria in downtown Arica. That's why after dropping her kids off at school, she moves to the cafeteria to sell desserts she makes herself via delivery. In the meantime, Nathasha's dad goes to work as the head of a mechanical workshop, since he's a mechanical engineer.

“My wife and I work happily and live peacefully. We'll see if we can get a job in our field of study. The important thing is that we're together, as a family, and we live in a place where our children can get everything they need,” says James, Nathasha's dad.





**Nathasha's day by day** is filled with dancing, laughter and fun with her classmates and preschool and her educators. She learns by playing with dinosaurs, dolls, toy cars, and while she runs, jumps, dances and chats. Nathasha lives her childhood happily.

"I have fun with my friends. I like to jump and dance. Sometimes I get mad and yell, but I know that's wrong, so I quickly stop yelling and start playing with my friends again," Nathasha ponders.

**Nathasha is an extroverted child** and is always organizing new adventures with her friends. If laughter is heard at her preschool, it's surely Nathasha joking around.





**“Around midday,** I can smell something good at my preschool and I get hungry. That means it’s time for lunch. First, we wash our hands with water and soap and then we sit down at the table. There, we share with each other, and learn about how important it is to eat fruit and vegetables.”

“Beans and apples are the foods I like the most,” says Nathasha happily.



**Nathasha knows how important** it is to look after nature.

Her educators have taught her that at preschool. With her friends, Nathasha goes to the garden they care for together, to water the plants and see how they've grown.

"Plants like to drink water, it's good for them," Nathasha says knowingly.





**Besides tending the plants,** Nathasha is interested in protecting animals. She understands very well that people need to respect nature.

Her favorite animals are cows, dogs, chickens, and pigs; cats, too, though sometimes they scratch her arms.

"I look after animals. That's why I love Achilles so much: he's the stuffed dog my dad gave me as a gift. I play with him like he's a real dog," says Nathasha.



**“Lots of times I play** with my doggie Achilles and my brother Edwing. I call my brother a ‘little cutie’, because he’s a precious little cutie,” Nathasha giggles.

“But sometimes, Edwing starts to scream, and it hurts my ears,” Nathasha says while she gives her brother a hug.















**During the weekends,** Nathasha enjoys time with her family at a park near the apartment where she lives.

“I get on the swings, the slide, and all of the playsets they have,” says Nathasha.



**“Here in Arica, we sometimes** go to the beach too, but I don’t like it as much because the water is freezing cold. I like warmer water,” says Nathasha, pretending to shiver.

**At home**, once the family comes back from the beach or the park, Nathasha's mom and dad cook dinner. At their table they always have *marquesas* (a Venezuelan cake).









**“Nathasha loves to eat** *arepas*. She also loves fish ceviche and bean and noodle soup,” says her mom, laughing.

“I like all the Venezuelan food my parents make at home, like *pabellón criollo* (Venezuelan shredded beef), *pastiche* (Venezuelan lasagna), black roast, fish cake, *hallacas* (Venezuelan tamales), and ham bread,” says Nathasha.





**After dinner, Nathasha** sings a song. Her favorite is *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star  
How I wonder what you are!  
Up above the world so high  
Like a diamond in the sky  
Twinkle, twinkle, little star  
How I wonder what you are!

When the blazing sun is gone  
When he nothing shines upon  
Then you show your little light  
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night  
    Twinkle, twinkle, little star  
How I wonder what you are!







**It's getting late, and tomorrow** begins a new day.

Nathasha has cleaned up her toys and is going to sleep. Her mom tucks her into bed, sings her a lullaby and wishes her goodnight.

“When the sun goes down, my brother and I go to sleep. Tonight, I’ll have nice dreams,” Nathasha says as she closes her eyes.





## TO KNOW AND TELL

Valencia is the capital and most populated city of Carabobo State, situated in the central region of Venezuela. It has a warm climate, tropical and humid, and is known as the “industrial city”. It hosts a range of attractions, from its beautiful parks to interesting historical sites, reflecting its colonial past.

The word Valencia is of Latin origin, meaning “courage”. It is therefore not surprising that many cities around the world have this name, as is the case in countries like Spain, Australia, Pakistan and the Philippines.





Autor: Ricardo Julio



Autor: Julián Álvarez



Autor: Ricardo Julio

A fun fact about the city where Nathasha was born is that near Valencia Lake, in Venezuela, several fossils of mastodons, sloth bears and giant armadillos have been found, similar to the ones that the boys and girls of *Ardillita* preschool –where Nathasa and her brother attend preschool– look through and play with.









## **ARICA**

Arica is located in the Arica and Parinacota Region, in the northernmost point of Chile. It's known as the "City of Eternal Spring", due to its privileged climate, as it has pleasant weather and temperature all year long. It's warm beaches contrast with the immensity of its desert, full of colorful mountains underneath a beautiful blue sky.

Arica is a port city. Due to the city's geographical characteristics, its port is a crucial commercial point for all of South America, as it allows for products originating in South America to circulate and find their way to other markets.

On the other hand, Arica's port has transformed in the past few years into a landfall point for cruise ships and floating hotels, which allow for tourists to arrive from all over the world that travel to Chile interested in seeing the natural beauty of the City of Eternal Spring.





ARICA



## EL MORRO

*El Morro* is one of Arica's main tourist attractions. It's a steep coastal hill, over 100 meters tall, that has become a symbol of the city and a memorial for the 19th-century War of the Pacific, also known as the Saltpeter War. *The Morro de Arica* was declared a National Monument on October 6th, 1971.

A fun fact about Arica is that the city still contains vestiges of the Chinchorro Culture, a name given to a community of fishermen-gatherers that lived on the coast of the Atacama Desert between 7,020 and 1,500 B.C.

This culture was distinguished for its funerary rites, as it was the first in the world, even before the Egyptians, to artificially mummify their dead.

# COOKING WITH FAMILY

## PABELLÓN CRIOLLO

### Ingredients

- 1/2 kg black beans
- 2 medium onions
- 6 sweet green and red chili peppers
- 1 head of garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon ground oregano
- 1 stalk of chives
- 1 spoonful sugar
- 1/2 kg beef
- 1½ cups rice
- Salt
- 1/2 cup oil tinged with annatto seeds
- 2 ripe bananas

### Preparación

Soak the beans for approximately 4 hours. Rinse and cook in sufficient water until they soften.

In a different pot, boil the minced meat, then let it rest in order to shred with your fingers. Reserve the resulting broth. Finely chop all of the seasonings and fry them with the flavored oil, crushed garlic, black pepper and oregano in a medium saucepan. Remove 2 or 3 of the fried seasonings and add them to the beans, along with the salt and sugar.

Allow the beans to cook for another 15 or so minutes without letting them dry out too much.

Add the rest of the seasonings to the shredded beef. Fry and stir in order to properly mix everything. Add salt and some of the reserved broth, and cook until all of the water evaporates.

In a medium pot, boil the rice with the remaining beef broth. Finally, cut the bananas into slices and fry in a saucepan. Serve warm and enjoy.









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**Ediciones de la JUNJI** is the result of the National Board of Preschools commitment to generate knowledge, creativity and innovation in education and childhood, and thus promote new means for learning and constructive debate.





The **CHILDREN OF THE WORLD** collection reflects the diversity and similarities of childhood all around the world and gives an account, with their own face and voice, of each of their lives.

These stories and photographs show what was before unseen: boys and girls in their everyday lives, cultures and territories, allowing them to be shared in homes, kindergartens and schools, with children and families everywhere on Earth.

