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Review of "Dora the Explorer – Dora's Ultimate Adventure Collection" DVD set

By Sherri Allen

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Paramount Home Video, October 2004

DVD, 291 minutes

Rating: Not Rated

ASIN: B0002V7OHO

Recommended Ages: 2 – 5

Review by Sherri Allen:

"We did it, we did it, we did it, yea!" Your children will be ready to celebrate when they help Dora and her best friend, Boots, meet exciting challenges and arrive at the varied destinations found in "Dora's Ultimate Adventure Collection."

This 3 volume set is made up of the Dora the Explorer favorites Map Adventures, Rhymes and Riddles and City of Lost Toys.

Map Adventures contains the following stories:

Lost Map: Dora and Boots set off to rescue the Map after it is taken by a nest–building bird.

Super Map: The Map becomes a superhero and helps Dora reach her super surprise.

Three Little Piggies: The piggies escape from their pen. Dora and Boots hurry to round them up and put them back where they belong before Swiper the Fox can swipe their presents.

Lost and Found: A game of hide–and–seek turns into a mission to find baby bluebird's mommy.

Rhymes and Riddles contains the following stories:

Dora Had a Little Lamb: Dora and Boots meet nursery–rhyme friends as they help little lamb get back to Mary.

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Call Me Mr. Riddles: Boots wants to win the Silliest Riddle contest, so he and Dora embark on a riddle-filled journey to Tallest Mountain, the site of the contest.

Backpack: Dora takes us back in time to Boots' and her first, very exciting adventure with Backpack.

Big River: Dora and Boots make their way down the river all the way to the waterfall to retrieve Boots' lost boot.

City of Lost Toys contains the following stories:

The Lost City: Dora and Boots journey all the way to the Lost City to find Dora's missing teddy bear.

Lost Squeaky: Boots loses his favorite toy. Dora and Boots rush to recover it before it's too late.

Berry Hunt: Dora and Boots find their thrill on Blueberry Hill when they venture to the home of sneaky Swiper the Fox in search of yummy blueberries.

Sticky Tape: Benny the Bull's hot air balloon ride becomes a chase as Dora and Boots hurry to save him.

The stories in "Dora's Ultimate Adventure Collection" are both entertaining and educational.

Preschoolers love the characters and the adventures. They love how the characters invite them to participate in the action. They are proud of the fact they have a hand in Dora and Boots accomplishing their goals, whether it's finding Dora's lost teddy bear, reuniting Mary with her little lamb or just going home. They love learning a few Spanish words, which fosters their curiosity about and acceptance of other cultures. They love learning sequencing and logic skills, even though they don't have any idea that is what they are doing.

In addition to the stories, the DVDs in "Dora's Ultimate Adventure Collection" contain special features. A riddle game and a couple flash card games provide interactive fun. There are also two short episodes from Noggin's Oobi for added entertainment.

Perfect for children who can't get enough of Dora the Explorer (and, really, that means almost ALL preschoolers), "Dora's Ultimate Adventure Collection" provides an abundance of self-esteem building, educational entertainment.

Sherri Allen is the editor of an award-winning website devoted to topics such as family, food, garden, house&home and money. For free articles, information, tips, recipes, reviews and coloring pages, visit <http://www.SherriAllen.com/>

Dora The Explorer And Her Memorable Songs

By Low Jeremy

For the kids all over the world, watching Dora the explorer is not complete without having to hear the song that Dora sings in every episode. In all of Dora the explorer's journey, children get to enjoy the different kinds of songs that she comes up with depending on the adventure that she is in.

It should not surprise you that your child will be wanting to have his or her own CD with all of Dora's song recorded in them. Children cannot seem to have enough of the songs that they hear everyday

when watching Dora. Chances are, they would want those same songs present whenever they want to hear them.

This is the influence that Dora the explorer songs have brought to kids. In any movie or show, there is always a song being sung that you can relate to. This is also the same thing with the songs from Dora the explorer.

Once kids hear them, there is a huge possibility that it will become their favorite song from then on. Being the song for Dora the explorer makes it all the more wanted.

Why are Dora the explorer songs well-liked?

One of the reason is that all the songs from Dora the explorer is especially made for pre-schooler and toddlers. The songs are made to suit their simple tastes and pleasures. These are the kinds of songs that they can easily relate to.

When creating Dora the explorer songs, the composers are taking into account that children should be able to understand them. Since these songs are for them, it is important that what the song is about should be what they do and what they like.

Not only that, Dora the explorer songs are also like an explanation of the journey and the adventure that she is in. You will notice that the songs she sings when she is happy is different from those that are sung whenever she is sad. This shows the emotions that Dora feels on her adventures. And this are the emotions that children are not finding it hard to understand.

It is said that when a song is played over and over again, you can easily memorize the lyrics and the melody that it has. This is the same case with Dora the explorer song. Do not be shocked when you hear your children singing a song in Spanish. Chances are, they are singing one of the songs that they hear from Dora the explorer.

Having the songs in Spanish does not make it any hard for children to understand the message and the melody that the song has. This is a part of their learning experiences. Not only will they learn important values, they also get to have basic Spanish word lesson. This is definitely one thing they will not be able to learn from school.

The popularity of Dora the explorer have made it possible for everyone toddler from any parts of the world to have memorized every word in Dora the explorer songs. By now, they might even have them memorized by heart and can probably sing them word for word when they are watching the show.

So the next time you hear your child sing a song in Spanish, do not fret. They are not really singing something they should not be. They are just singing the songs that they hear from Dora the explorer.

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