



The House That Lou Built

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Grades 6-8

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Questions and Activities

1. Lou describes her grandmother, Lola Celina, as a hot-pink Painted Lady Victorian house in San Francisco. If you were to describe yourself as a house, what kind of house would you be? What type of architecture or style would you have, and how would your house represent your personality?
2. If you were to build a house like Lou did, what kind of house would you build and who would you build it for? Where would your house be located?
3. Think of a building that is important to you. Describe this building using all of your senses. What does it look like? What does it sound or smell like? How does it make you feel? Do you know the history of this building and if so, what is it?
4. Lou's family takes part in Barrio Fiesta, an annual neighborhood party that recognizes Filipino culture and patron saints in the Philippines. Think about your family's heritage, the people in your neighborhood, and the buildings you're surrounded by. How do places reflect the cultures and identities of the people who use them? Are there any celebrations that are unique to where you live? Which communities celebrate those festivals and how are they celebrated?



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