

Families of the World: Puerto Rico

1) Nine-year-old **Jose** and his family are watching weather reports about an approaching hurricane. We visit his mother, who supervises hurricane preparations for kidney dialysis patients at a hospital, shop for emergency supplies, and learn about his father's business repairing scientific scales. 2) Eight-year-old **Laura** lives on a farm in the mountains. Laura's mother does sustainable agriculture, growing bananas and tropical flowers. We see the damage caused to her family's farm by a hurricane. We visit Laura's father at work at a port company that ships fruits and vegetables, go to Laura's bilingual school, and follow the family as they visit the largest radio telescope in the world.



Vocabulary

1. crowded (adj)
2. commonwealth (n)
3. hurricane (n)
4. manners (n)
5. stare (v)
6. yell (v)
7. nurse (n)
8. scales (n)
9. native people (n)
10. slave (n)
11. independent (adj)
12. colony (n)
13. science (n)
14. math (n)
15. bunch (n)
16. tropical flowers (n)
17. soil (n)
18. fertilizer (n): plant food
19. manure (n)
20. Patchouli plant (n)
21. erosion (n)
22. insect (n)
23. radio waves (n)
24. telescope (n)

Part 1: While Watching**A) Jose:**

1. What is the capital of Puerto Rico?
2. T or F? Puerto Rico is one of the most crowded islands in the world.
3. T or F? Puerto Rico is a state in the U.S.
4. T or F? Most young people finish high school or college.
5. T or F? Some parents won't allow their daughter to go on a date unless they have a brother or older friend with them.
6. What are 3 examples of good manners?

7. What is his mother's job?

8. T or F? Puerto Rico uses U.S. dollars.
9. What is the name of the hurricane?

10. How do people prepare for the coming hurricane?

11. T or F? Lots of tourists visit Puerto Rico every year.
12. Who was the first European to visit Puerto Rico?

13. Why is Puerto Rico a mixture of so many different people?

14. Why does Jose's mother sign every page of his homework?

15. T or F? The hurricane hit Puerto Rico.
16. T or F? "It's better to be safe than sorry."

B) Laura:

1. Why is Spanish the national language of Puerto Rico?
2. T or F? Many Puerto Ricans want to be independent of the U.S.
3. T or F? Puerto Ricans can vote in U.S. elections.
4. Why did the American colonies want to be independent of England?

5. What classes do they use English in?



b. Do you agree that TV advertisements "...make us think we need to buy something so we can look or feel good"? Why or why not?

c. Do you think that the influence of TV advertisements is another good reason to not have a TV? Why or why not?

3. Would you like to visit Puerto Rico someday? Why or why not?
(Write down 2 or 3 reasons.)