

free spirit

PUBLISHING®



Meeting kids' social,  
emotional & educational  
needs since 1983

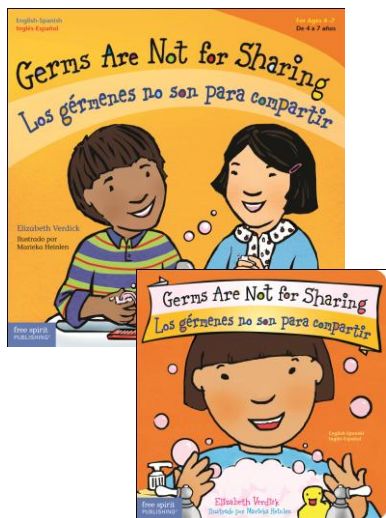
[www.freespirit.com](http://www.freespirit.com)

## Contact

Elena Meredith

612.746.6848

[meredith@freespirit.com](mailto:meredith@freespirit.com)



## **GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING/ LOS GÉRMEENES NO SON PARA COMPARTIR**

by Elizabeth Verdick

illustrated by

Marieka Heinlen

## **Young Children Learn to Say Adiós to Germs with Bilingual Picture Books on Cold and Flu Prevention**

**For  
Immediate  
Release!**

Minneapolis, MN—Free Spirit Publishing's classic books on health and hygiene for kids are now available in bilingual English-Spanish editions. Written by Elizabeth Verdick and illustrated by Marieka Heinlen, **GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING/LOS GÉRMEENES NO SON PARA COMPARTIR** will help kids understand what germs are, what they can do, and why it's so important to keep them from spreading.

Part of the popular, award-winning Best Behavior™ series, **GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING/LOS GÉRMEENES NO SON PARA COMPARTIR** depicts real-life encounters with germs that kids can relate to. Kids will learn how to properly cover a cough, not to eat food that has dropped on the floor, when to wash their hands, and more. Marieka Heinlen's bright, vibrant illustrations complement Elizabeth Verdick's simple words that kids will repeat and remember after reading, such as, "Achoo! Achoo! What do you need to do?" or "¡Achís! ¡Achís! ¿Qué tienes que hacer?"

The books are translated from the English-only **GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING**, which "hits the bull's-eye with an important message to all children," says Dr. Philip M. Tierno, the director of Clinical Microbiology and Immunology at New York University Medical Center and author of *The Secret Life of Germs*.

**GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING/LOS GÉRMEENES NO SON PARA COMPARTIR** is available in a durable board book for ages baby to preschool and in a longer, more in-depth softcover for ages 4 to 7. These bilingual editions include all of the children's text along with a section of tips for parents, teachers, and caregivers in both languages—useful tools for early childhood educators, healthcare providers, school nurses, and flu awareness initiatives. Dr. Joseph J. Sockalosky, the director of Medical Education at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota says **GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING** "addresses an increasingly important subject in children's health. This book should be in every pediatrician's and family physician's waiting room and at every childcare center, preschool, and early elementary school."

**GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING/LOS GÉRMEENES NO SON PARA COMPARTIR** is the third Best Behavior book to be released in a bilingual edition, following **HANDS ARE NOT FOR HITTING/LAS MANOS NO SON PARA PEGAR** and **WORDS ARE NOT FOR HURTING/LAS PALABRAS NO SON PARA LASTIMAR**. The English-only version of **GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING** has received awards from Dr. Toy, Midwest Book Awards, Midwest Independent Publisher's Association, and Mom's Choice Award.

-end-

**GERMS ARE NOT FOR SHARING  
LOS GÉRMENES NO SON PARA COMPARTIR**

by **Elizabeth Verdick**, illustrated by **Marieka Heinlen**

**Paperback**

ISBN 978-1-57542-368-5

\$11.95 • 40 pp. • color illust. • 9" x 9" • for ages 4–7

**Board Book**

ISBN 978-1-57542-369-2

\$7.95 • 24 pp. • color illust. • 7" x 7" • for ages baby–preschool



**About the Author**

Elizabeth Verdick is the author of more than 30 highly acclaimed books for children and teenagers, including books in the Toddler Tools™ series, the Best Behavior™ series for young children, and the Laugh & Learn™ series for preteens. Her most recent titles include *Don't Behave Like You Live in a Cave* and *Mealtime*, the ninth book in the Toddler Tools series. Elizabeth lives with her husband, daughter, son, and five pets near St. Paul, Minnesota.



**About the Illustrator**

Marieka Heinlen received her BFA at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and also studied at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London. She launched her career as an award-winning children's book illustrator with the best-selling *Hands Are Not for Hitting*, part of the Best Behavior series. As a freelance illustrator and designer, Marieka focuses her work on books and other materials for children, teens, parents, and teachers. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota, with her husband and two children.



**About Free Spirit Publishing ([www.freespirit.com](http://www.freespirit.com))  
Meeting kids' social, emotional, & educational needs since 1983**

Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Free Spirit is the leading publisher of learning tools that support young people's social-emotional health and their educational needs. Free Spirit's mission is to help children and teens think for themselves, succeed in life, and make a difference in the world.