

# HANDOUT 2: CHRISTMAS DINNER SCENE

\*This scenario is used for the Identifying States Activity if not showing the *Instant Family* clip.

## Christmas Dinner Scenario:

Mom and Dad have prepared a lovely meal for Christmas dinner for the 3 children who have been newly placed in their home. It has been a nice day for all, but they have also discovered some cultural differences.

Lita, age 7, is used to having potato chips for dinner and rejects the “nice meal”. Mom and Dad calmly tell the child that tonight there will be no chips. Lita begins to demand potato chips and older sister Lizzie attempts to step in and firmly tell her to stop. Mom tells Lizzie she can handle it and Mom begins trying to convince Lita the dinner is really good. Lizzie says she was only trying to help, leans back in her chair and focuses on eating her food (while really watching everything going on). Lita begins to scream and demand the chips. Dad steps in and tells Mom it doesn’t look like Lita is getting on board with the plan. Juan sits quietly watching.

As Mom increasingly insists that Lita eat her dinner, Lita screams louder, throws food, and leaves the table. Juan accidentally knocks over his glass of milk, breaking it and begins apologizing repeatedly. As food flies, a candle is knocked over and a small fire starts on the table. Dad attempts to put the fire out and Juan cries quietly. Lizzie asks if she can take over now and Dad tells Mom it’s time to let Lizzie step in. Lizzie then firmly takes Lita’s hands and gives her specific directions in Spanish, their native language. She then leads Juan and Lita out of the room to get cleaned up and tells Mom and Dad that kids should not be given drinks in glass cups.

