



Paris Colunga

OB Sonography 1

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Dora The Explorer

I went over to my brother and sister in law's house to babysit my niece this weekend. She is always so easy to keep an eye on because I know that if I turn on Dora The Explorer, she will be content for hours. As soon as it got too cold to play outside, we came inside to watch her favorite show. This week on the show, Dora had a special guest. The guest's name was Dr. Michelle, a perinatologist from Kaiser Permanente in Vallejo, CA. Dr. Michelle and Dora decided to take a trip through the land of fetal circulation. My niece grabbed her blanket and settled in to watch. Dr. Michelle and Dora met up at Placenta Road where they were to begin their journey. Once Dora made sure she had her map and her backpack full of oxygenated blood, Dora exclaimed to the listeners, "¡Vámanos!"

Dr. Michelle and Dora made their way down umbilical vein lane and immediately came to a fork in the road. On the left, portal vein lane, and on the right, ductus venosus street. Dora pulled out her map to see which route would be faster. The path to the left would take them into portal vein lane, through Liver Land, out hepatic veins drive, and ending up at inferior vena cava road. The path to the right, would take them through ductus venosus street and straight to inferior vena cava road. Dr. Michelle, who had made this journey many times, informed Dora that even though the path through ductus venosus street was faster, Liver Land was really worth seeing. Dora rolled up her map and they made their way through portal vein lane. Liver Land was almost

like seeing the Grand Canyon, so Dora agreed that the longer route was worth the trip. Once they made it to inferior vena cava road, they ran into Dora's archnemesis, Swiper the Fox. Dora, Dr. Michelle, and my niece started yelling, "Swiper no swiping!" Unfortunately, they were too late. Swiper swiped some of the oxygenated blood from Dora's backpack. He quickly got away and they had to continue with a backpack that was only partially filled with oxygenated blood. They followed inferior vena cava road until they made a turn at right atrium avenue. Shortly after their turn, they came to another fork in the road.

Dora pulled out her map to find the shortest route. If Dora and Dr. Michelle stayed to the right they would follow a long path and face a large hill starting at right ventricle boulevard. If they were to follow the path towards the left, they would be going through the valley of foramen ovale, to left atrium avenue, through the bicuspid valve tunnel, to left ventricle place, and end up at Aorta plaza. Dora was sure this time they would take the short route, but Dr. Michelle urged Dora to take the longer route once more. She claimed that Lung Kingdom was a place she didn't want to pass up. My niece was thrilled that Dr. Michelle kept encouraging a longer journey and more adventures. Dora rolled up her map and they proceeded up right ventricle boulevard where they enjoyed a view of moderator band beach.

Once they reached the top of the hill, they started making their way towards main pulmonary artery way. Because their goal was to see Lung Kingdom, once main pulmonary artery way reached a split, they knew they had to take the path to the right towards Lung Kingdom. The path to the left would have taken them through ductus arteriosus tunnel and out into Aorta plaza. The path to the right, called right pulmonary artery trail, led straight to Lung

Kingdom. When they arrived, Dora exclaimed, “¡Aye dios mio, es magnífico!” My niece was in awe as well.

As Dora and Dr. Michelle left the four pulmonary vein gates, Dora grabbed her backpack to find their way to left atrium avenue. While Dora was in her backpack, she found that the oxygenated blood was switched with deoxygenated blood! While Dr. Michelle and Dora were enjoying Lung Kingdom, Swiper the Fox took the rest of the oxygenated blood from Dora’s backpack, and replaced it with deoxygenated blood. They had been bamboozled! Dora and Dr. Michelle had to continue the rest of their trip with deoxygenated blood.

When they finally reached left atrium avenue, they knew they were on the path that would eventually lead back to their starting point. As they exited left atrium avenue, they traveled through the bicuspid valve tunnel, to left ventricle place, and ended up at Aorta plaza. As they turned to head toward umbilical artery terrace, Dr. Michelle informed Dora that from Aorta plaza, it would be easy to head south towards Lower Body Land. They both agreed that they would take a trip down south next time they traveled together. Once they reached umbilical artery terrace, their starting point was in site. They traveled down the hill and finally reached placenta road. Their journey was over. Dora thanked Dr. Michelle for visiting and being her guide on such a memorable trip. At the end of the long day, Dr. Michelle returned to her home in basilar plate county and Dora returned to her home in chorionic plate county. The credits for the episode came on and I realized my niece was sound asleep. The episode ended right as nap time came around; a perfect ending to a perfect day.