

~NATHALIA~

Educational Guide

For

"DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS"



Overview

"Día de los Muertos", a heartfelt tribute to the Mexican holiday known as 'Day of the Dead'. The lyrics, in Spanish, are inspired by the beautiful traditions that involve storytelling, singing, dancing, ornate decor, offerings, parades and much more, all to celebrate and honor family members who have come and gone.

TARGET AGE: 6-12

PURPOSE

- Informative* ✓
- Narrative*
- Reflective* ✓
- Expressive*

LANGUAGE

- English*
- Spanish* ✓

PRIMARY CONCEPTS

- Holiday*
- Mexican Culture*

INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE:

LANGUAGE COMPONENT

- Lyrics and Translation*
- Spanish Vocabulary*

CULTURAL COMPONENT

- Elements of the Altar*

MUSIC COMPONENT

- Discover new instruments*

ART COMPONENT

- Decorate your Calaca*



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Lyrics

SPANISH

Prende una vela y enciende el copal
Cenizas y un poco de sal
Pon el pan dulce y algo de beber
Y recuerda los tiempos de ayer

Toma el retrato del que ya no esta
Colócalo sobre el altar
Papel de colores, caminos de flores
Y ofrendas para recordar

Que lindo, que lindo
Que vivan en nuestras memorias
Que lindo, que lindo
Que celebremos sus historias

Hoy celebramos el Día de los Muertos
Nos esperamos con brazos abiertos

Nuestros ancestros vamos a honrar
Hoy es un día para celebrar
Es un legado a una generación
Que siga en ellos esta tradición

Que lindo, que lindo
Que vivan en nuestras memorias
Que lindo, que lindo
Que celebremos sus historias

Hoy celebramos el Día de los Muertos Nos
esperamos con brazos abiertos

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Light a candle and burn some incense
Ashes and a little salt
Sweet bread to eat and something to drink
Let's remember the times of yesterday

Bring portraits of those who are gone
And place it on an altar
Colorful banners, pathways of flowers
And offerings to remember them by

How beautiful, so beautiful
That they live in our memories
How beautiful, so beautiful
That we celebrate their stories

Today we celebrate the Day of the Dead
We await for each other with arms wide open

Our ancestors, we will honor
Today is a day to celebrate
It's a legacy for each generation
So they can continue this tradition

How beautiful, so beautiful
That they live in our memories
How beautiful, so beautiful
That we celebrate their stories

Today we celebrate the Day of the Dead
We await for each other with arms wide open



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Spanish Vocabulary



Review key Spanish vocabulary from 'Día de los Muertos' by sounding each word out.

PRENDER - To light

VELA - Candle

ENCIENDE - Turn on

COPAL - Incense

PAN DULCE - Sweet Bread

BEBER - To drink

RECUERDA - Remember

AYER - Yesterday

RETRATO - Portrait

COLÓCALO - To place

OFRENDAS - Offerings

LINDO - Pretty/Beautiful

VIVAN - Live

MEMORIAS - Memories

CELEBRAMOS - Celebrate

ESPERAMOS - We wait

ANCESTROS - Ancestors

HONRAR - Honor

CANCIONES - Songs

LEGADO - Legacy

GENERACIÓN - Generation

TRADICIÓN - Tradition




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Elements of the altar

 **In Mexico families will decorate an altar in honor of family members that are no longer with them. Each altar has traditional elements that have a special meaning in this tradition. Draw a line to match the name with each image.**



Pan de Muerto



Cempasuchil
(Flor de Muerto)



Agua



Copal
(Incienso)



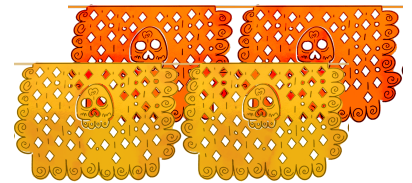
Papel Picado



Calaca
(Calavera)



Velas



Retrato



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Elements of the altar



Fill in the blank with the following words.

**Papel Picado - Pan de Muerto - Agua - Cempasuchil
Vela - Retrato - Agua - Copal - Calavera**

1. The _____ has a round shape, and symbolizes the circle of life and death. It's a sweet offering at the altar.
2. The _____ has a bright color and scent, it's used to guide loved ones to the altar.
3. _____ is provided to quench the thirst of loved ones visiting the altar.
4. The _____ is burned to purify the space.
5. The _____ represents the wind. Air is essential to live. This delicate ornament is also a reminder of how fragile life is.
6. The _____ is commonly placed on the altar, often with the name of the loved one on its forehead. It's made of sugar to remind us that life can be sweet.
7. The _____ light the way and bring hope.
8. The _____ is an image of the person we love, that no longer lives among us.



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What Instruments do you hear?



The song Día de los Muertos combined elements of Mexican folk music styles such as Son Jarocho, Huapango and Mariachi. In the song you can hear instruments used in these styles. Circle the instruments you've heard before.



Guitarra The guitar usually has six strings and is originally from Spain.



Leona Translates to "Lioness" is a guitar-shaped fretted stringed instrument, from the state of Veracruz, Mexico. It has four strings and is a low pitched instrument like the bass.



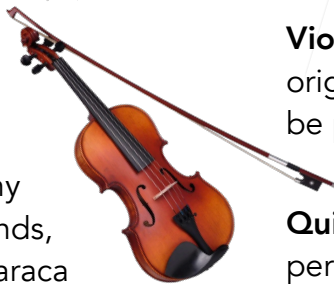
Jarana A guitar shaped instrument usually with 8 strings. It's the main instrument in the Son Jarocho style from the state of Veracruz in Mexico.



Trompeta is a brass instrument used in different music styles: jazz, orchestra's, latin bands. The earliest trumpet was found in Egypt!



Maracas have existed for many years in Africa, the Pacific Islands, and the Americas. The first maraca (rattle) made out of a gourd might have been found in Chile.



Violin The violin is an orchestral instrument originating from Italy; has 4 strings and it can be played with a bow or plucked.

Quijada de Burro Is a percussion instrument made from the jawbone of a donkey. The teeth rattle making a strong buzzing sound.

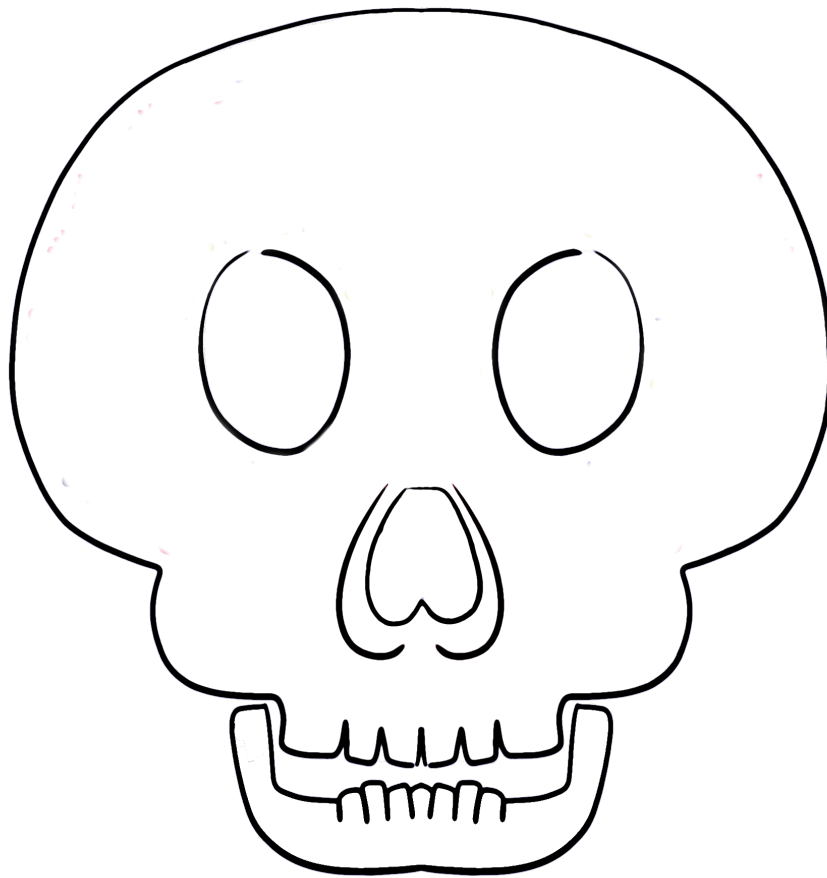


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Decorate your own Sugar Skull

 In the space below, decorate your own "CALAQUITA" Sugar Skull with elements that represent a family member that is no longer with you.

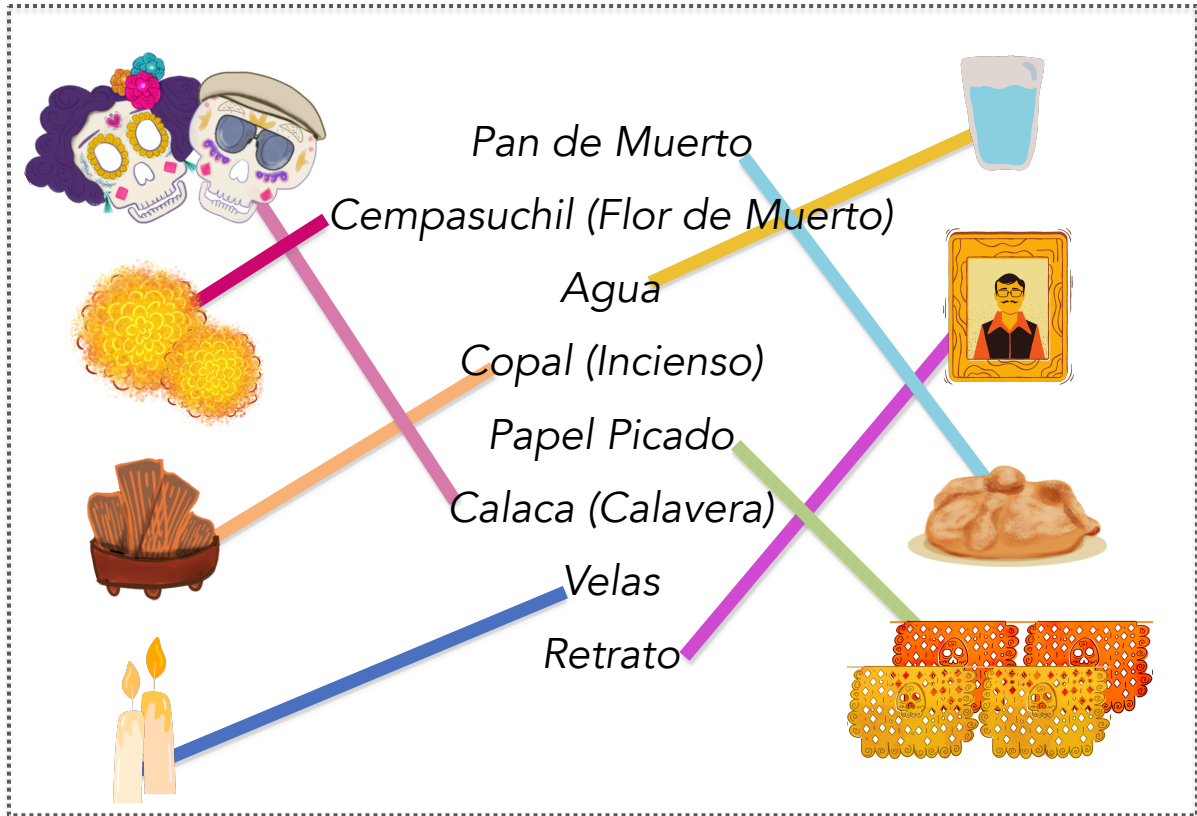


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Answer Key



1. Pan de Muerto
2. Cempasuchil

3. Agua
4. Copal

5. Papel Picado
6. Calavera

7. Vela
8. Retrato

