

Day of the Dead Quest Sheets

Nombres Karina Messerly, Alicia Knight, Jorge Singer

Clase 2nd period

Day of the Dead Quest Sheet

Octavio Paz writes the Mexican has no problems with death that he "... chases after it, mocks it, courts it, hugs it, sleeps with it, it is his favorite plaything and his most lasting love." In your opinion, how is this idea similar to or different from our "United States" view on death?

Very different, Americans mourn over deaths, but Hispanics celebrate death and think of it as a new stage in life.

When is All Saints Day and All Souls Day celebrated?

All Saints Day will be November 1, and All Souls Day follows after on November 2, 2012.

Even though each region in Mexico celebrates Day of the Dead differently, what are things that they do have in common.

Skulls are used to honor the dead. Every year they make feasts and have fiestas! Many people spend the day in cemeteries, placing marigolds and candles at the tombstone.

November 1 is reserved to remember The Saints.

November 2 is reserved to remember All Souls Day.

From mid-October to the first week in November, what are some of the items markets and shops stock up on?

New pots and pans, herbs and fragrances, Pan de Muerte, crossbones, decorative skulls, y papel picado.

List 5 edible goodies enjoyed on Day of the Dead.

Pan de Muerte

Candied Skulls

Chocolate Coffin and Skulls

Atole

Candied Pumpkin

What are some things that are used to create an altar?

Altars are decorated with marigolds, candles, lots of food, pictures, and sometimes they leave toiletries on the altar because they believe that the dead have been on a long journey and might want to refresh themselves.

What occurs on November 2?

All Souls' Day commemorates the faithful departed. All Soul's Day is a Roman Catholic day of remembrance for friends and loved ones who have passed away. This comes from the ancient Pagan Festival of the Dead, which celebrated the Pagan belief that the souls of the dead would return for a meal with the family. Candles in the window would guide the souls back home, and another place was set at the table. Children would come through the village, asking for food to be offered symbolically to the dead, then donated to feed the hungry.

How do Aztecs view death?

One of the Aztecs many beliefs included the belief that how a person died would affect that person's afterlife and their destination after death. There was a different afterlife if a person died a natural, violent, or while drowning. People would enter Mictlan "the place of the dead" if they died a natural death. They would have to experience a different journey through nine levels of underworld facing many dangerous trials and tribulations. Once buried, individuals heading towards Mictlan were armed with articles and useful objects that would be essential to survive the nine levels. Among the supplies they carried with them were food, pets, clothing, and toys.

In Mixquic, what takes place to celebrate Day of the Dead?

They prepare an entire month ahead preparing altars and festivities. In Mixquic, the bells from the old Augustian Convent ring at 4 PM on the second day of November, calling for a procession to the cemetery. The people come silently from their homes, carrying bundles of gladiolas, cempasuchil (the traditional flower of the Day of the Dead), and candles in hand. The men, women, and children sweep and wash the graves, then cover them with petals of the flowers they carry. They light their candles, they burn copal and incense, and they pray. By midnight of the second, all the graves are lit by hundreds of candles which shine on the faces of those who have gathered. In the sounds of whispering and sobbing, a link is renewed between those alive and their loved ones who have died.

Food Quest Sheet

Nombre _____ Clase _____ Periodo _____

Who is la Katrina?

La Katrina is a Mexican term for death.

What are some foods that are made during Day of the Dead?

Day of the Dead foods include a lot of pastries and chocolate.

What are the different types of Pan de Muertos or Bread of the Dead?

Pumpkin bread and sprinkles .

What do children love to eat?

The children love to eat the chocolate.

What is the purpose of having a glass of water at the altar?

Water is the source of life so they feel it is important to be there.

In your own words, describe the cemeteries in Mexico? What do you like or dislike about the cemetery decorations?

They are more elaborate and cool. I like them, makes death happier.

Look at the two recipes along the right side of the page. Would you eat either one of these recipes? What do you like and do not like about each?

I like the look of the first one. The first one looks better than the second one does.

Nombre _____ Clase _____ Periodo _____

Wordplay Quest Sheet

Unscramble the vocabulary word, then using the glossary, write the definition.

1. avlasecr= calaveras
2. oelm= mole
3. lpoalic= copalli
4. otlac= atole
5. gatnielso= angelitos

6. tacera= careta
7. acavler= calavera
8. fodraen= ofrenda
9. qfelnaieu= alfenique
10. apn ed osl ermtuso= pan de los muertos
11. zpamchtcleui= cempazuchitl

Definitions

1. Calaveras- songs and poems about the festival
2. Mole- a thick sauce made from a variety of ingredients, including chilis, sesame seeds, herbs, spices, chocolate and fruit.
3. Copalli- a scented resin used to make incense
4. Atole- an ancient drink made from corn meal and water and flavored with various fruits.
5. Angelitos- the souls of the children who have died; literally “little angels”.
6. Careta- mask worn by dancers to scare the dead away at the end of the celebrations.
7. Calavera- a skull; also a slang term for “daredevil”
8. Ofrenda- an offering; refers to the goods set on the altar.
9. Alfenique- a special confection used to fashion skulls, fruits and other figures.
10. Pan de los muertos- bread of the dead
11. Cempazuchitl- a yellow marigold, the symbol of death.

Day of the Dead vs. Halloween

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- Kids dress up and go house to house getting candy from neighbors that hand it out

- Mainly in Latin and South American countries.
- Decorate graves