

Day of the Dead Quest Sheets

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Periodo : 2

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?

In the United States, the concept of death is something sad and something to fear. However, in Mexico death is not feared but it is embraced and honored.

When is All Saints Day and All Souls Day celebrated?

All Saints Day is November First, and All Souls Day is November Second.

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

They all celebrate using colorful adornments, family reunions at burial plots, special foods, offerings at altars, and fireworks.

November 1 is reserved to remember deceased infants and children.

November 2 is reserved to remember deceased adults.

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

Shops stock up on skeletons, tissue paper cutouts, macabre toys, wreaths, crosses, flowers (especially marigolds), and candles.

List 5 edible goodies enjoyed on Day of the Dead.

- Pan de muerte
- Sugar shaped as skulls and coffins
- Chocolate
- Amaranth seeds
- Unadorned dark breads molded into humanoid figures

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

Some things used are tissue paper, photographs, candles, candies, and favorite goods and drinks.

What occurs on November 2?

Families gather at the graves of their loved ones to celebrate. They usually have picnics and vendors set up to sell food and drinks. Pyrotechnic rockets are also usually sent up to honor all.

How do Aztecs view death?

They viewed it as a blessing to die in childbirth, battle, or as a sacrifice. They thought this was a blessing because it put you in a good position in the afterlife.

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

In Mexico, merchants begin to set up and people become festive towards the end of October. Families gather at burial plots that have been elaborately decorated. At 2p.m., they mourn for the loss of all, but that night candles light up the graves and the souls of the dead return.

Food Quest Sheet

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Who is la Katarina?

Katarina is the skeleton with a plum hat and dress. She has become a symbol for the Day of the Dead.

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

Favorite foods like moles, tamales, pan de muerto, and candy for dead children are made.

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

The different types are merely different shapes. The bread is usually round but maybe shaped into humans or animals. They can be sprinkled with sugar or anise seeds.

What do children love to eat?

The children love to eat sugar skull treats.

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

Souls are tired after their journey to the altars, so the glass of water quenches their thirst.

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

The gravestones are close together. On the Day of the Dead, families clean and repaint the gravestones. They decorate the graveyards with flowers and candles. I loike how they decorate them with things that the dead liked, but I don't like how they repaint the gravestones.

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?

1. Pan de Muerte- Yes, I think it looks very good. I like the ingredients, especially cinnamon.

2. Horchata-No, I don't think I would like this drink because of the almonds and rice.

Wordplay Quest Sheet

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

1. Avlasecr: calaveras
2. oelm: mole
3. lpoalic: copalli
4. otlae: 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. zpmachtcleui: compazuchitl

Definitions

1. songs and poems about the festival
2. a thick sauce made from a variety of ingredients, including chilis, sesame seeds, herbs, spices, chocolate and fruit
3. a scented resin used to make incense
4. an ancient drink made from corn meal and water and flavored with various fruits
5. the souls of the children who have died; literally "little angels"
6. mask worn by dancers to scare the dead away at the end of the celebrations
7. a skull; also a slang term for "daredevil"
8. an offering; refers to the goods set out on the altars
9. a special confection used to fashion skulls, fruits and other figures
10. bread of the dead
11. a yellow marigold, the symbol of death, also known as cempasuchil or zempasuchitl

Day of the Dead vs. Halloween



Halloween

- Used to ward off spirits
- Turned into a secular American holiday
- People dress in costumes

- Holiday of celebration
- Around the same time
- Have religious meanings
- Many festivities take place

Day of the Dead

- Used to welcome spirits home
- It is still meaningful to Mexicans
- People decorate altars to honor deceased loved ones