

Día de Muertos Spanish Super Pack!

**Secondary Grades Culture, Vocabulary Reading,
Writing & Activities**



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El Día de los Muertos: The Culture & the History

Remembering Loved Ones Who Have Passed Away

Día de Muertos is a special time for most Mexicans to remember and celebrate the memories of loved ones who have passed away. *Día de Muertos* is a combination of the Roman Catholic Church's All Saints Day and the Aztec's beliefs in an life after death in a sort of Heaven.

Although *Día de Muertos* does recognize that family, friends, and loved ones have passed away, the holiday is not sad. It celebrates family and friends in fun ways.

- Colorful pastries and cookies- **pan muerto y unas galletas**
- Lots of candles- **muchas velas**
- Bright flowers- **las flores**
- Bright paper cut outs- **el papel picado**
- Decorated sugar skulls- **las calaveras**
- Parades- **los desfiles**
- Special church services= **unas misas**

The native people of Mexico who lived there for thousands of years before the Spanish explorers arrived in 1521 did not view death as a bad thing. This positive view of death now makes *Día de Muertos* a bright, colorful, happy celebration in Mexico. The Hispanic or Mexican view on death is different from what most Americans and other cultures believe, so it can be misunderstood.

Día de Muertos Is Not Halloween

American Halloween does occur one day before *Día de Muertos*, but the two have no relationship. Halloween comes from Northern Europe and is a pagan celebration or a night to watch out for spirits, All Hallows' Eve. Just like all over the world, many Mexicans have fun with trick or treating, but they see no connection between the two.

The Look of Día de Muertos

Día de Muertos celebrations and parades in Mexico show the country at its brightest and most beautiful. Mexico's spectacular, funny folk art is everywhere in funny skeleton statues of all sizes, and cut-out crepe paper banners, *papel picado* that hangs between streets, alleys, and halls. Bright gold flowers, or *flores*, decorate tables. People place photos of loved ones who have passed away on a table with that person's favorite things. These are called *ofrendas*.

The Food of Día De Muertos

As with Mexico in general, the best thing about *Día de Muertos* is the food! The bakers and pastry chefs are at their most creative, cooking up sweet *pan de muerto*, and carefully creating brightly decorated sugar skulls, or *Calaveras*.

Most towns and cities have parades, and bakeries are filled with the *Día de Muertos* sweets and pastries.

Vocabulario para el Da de los Muertos

la vela= the candle

las flores = the flowers

la casa = the house

las calaveras = the sugar skulls

el pan = the bread

la ofrenda = the memorial offering

el desfile = the parade

True or False

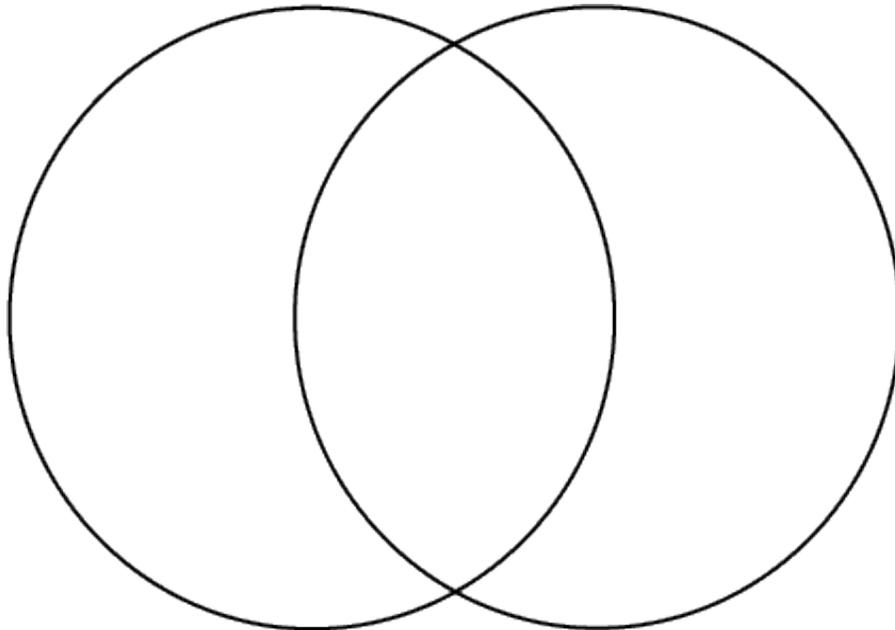
1. Día de Muertos is the Mexican Halloween. T or F
2. Día de Muertos is celebrated on November 1st and 2nd. T or F
3. People dress up in costumes to remember their loved ones. T or F
4. Día de Muertos is a sad occasion. T or F
5. The Mexican view of death is not completely negative. T or F
6. Día de Muertos colors are vibrant and bright. T or F

Similarities and Differences between American Halloween & Día de Muertos.

Fill out the Venn Diagram below with the *symbols* or *Spanish vocabulary words* of each holiday.

Día de Muertos

Halloween



Nombre: _____

Vocabulario

el día feriado	holiday
El Día de los Muertos	Day of the Dead
la panadería	The bakery
el pan de muerto	The bread of the dead
las calaveras de azúcar	The sugar skulls
el mercado al aire libre	Outdoor market
las flores	The flowers
las velas	The candles
el cementerio	The cemetery
La ofrenda	The memorial

Datos Interesantes

la calavera	La cabeza del esqueleto.
el pan de muerto	Pan especial preparado para el Día de los Muertos
las zempasuchitles	Las flores anaranjadas
El altar	Es para honrar a una persona muerta. Tiene velas, flores, fotos y otras cosas que le gustaron a la persona muerta.
las velas	para poner en los altares

Nombre: _____

Busca el vocabulario de Día de los Muertos. Escribe un círculo alrededor el vocabulario de Día de los Muertos.

Una Sopa de Letras para el Día de los Muertos

S E A R E V A L A C L C S R Y
Z A D E S F I L E U E P O A Q
M F I A C L X Q S M A F T T L
N F G R P A E P P N I F R L A
O Y P T O O T A K E K D E A S
I L K Y V M S R S P C L U O D
R H S P B Ú E T I B L L M Y M
Q Z G K C H A M A N E O G G U
M M S H W T N D L P A P S E E
M W I Q O F N J A I A G B Z R
S T D I A E B P H T T O R F T
L A U H R F T V K J X T O L O
O R L F O D A C I P U F Z Z B
X S O E Z X Y Y M H P T S S L
K P P C V S H B K W R Q V M L

El altar
La calavera
La catrina
la cempasúchitl
El desfile
El Día de los Muertos
La fiesta
Las memorias
La Muerte
La ofrenda
El pan
El papel picado
Las velas



una ofrenda

Nombre: _____

MATCHING

Emparejar: Escribe la letra que corresponda al significado. **Write the correct letter to the left of the number.**

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. El altar | A. a decorative skull, usually made of sugar |
| 2. La calavera | B. A parade |
| 3. La catrina | C. The candles |
| 4. Las cempasúchitles | D. A display of with spiritual meaning and symbols |
| 5. El desfile | E. Colorful Crepe paper with decorative cut-outs |
| 6. El Día de los Muertos | D. Marigold flowers-the nahuatl name |
| 7. Fiesta | E. The bread of the dead |
| 8. Memorias | F. A colonial style skeleton woman |
| 9. La muerte | G. A display of the Departed's photos and favorite things decorated with marigolds, candles, calaveras and more |
| 10. La ofrenda | H. November 1 & 2 |
| 11 El pan de muerto | I. A celebration, a party |
| 12. El papel picado | J. Memories |
| 13 Las velas | K. Death |

Nombre: _____

Mixed up tables

The tables below are NOT MATCHED CORRECTLY. Write the correct LETTER in the rectangle of the term on the LEFT.

Las zempasúchitles	A. La cabeza del esqueleto que esta hecha de azúcar. Esta decorada.
La ofrenda	B. Pan especial preparado para el Día de los Muertos
El pan de muerto	C. Son para la luz y par poner en la ofrenda.
El altar	D. Las flores anaranjadas
Las velas	E. Una colleción de cosas, unas velas, unas flores, unas calaveras y más para honrar a una persona muerta.
La calavera	F. Es el lugar en donde se pone la ofrenda

Partner Practice

- Take turns reading the Spanish terms with its correct definition.
- Take turns quizzing each other, first call out the Spanish definition. When you're done with all of them, quiz each other by calling out the term.

Nombre: _____

Total Points =

Haz y describe una ofrenda

Create, label, and describe an ofrenda.

Options

- A. Draw, color, and label an ofrenda
- B. Create an ofrenda in a display from real objects.
- C. Individual Project
- D. Partner or group Project

Follow the directions below:

1. **Lee la lista de vocabulario y los elementos obligatorios. Incluye todo.** Read the list of vocabulary and required elements. Include everything.

Las velas	las flores	el papel picado
Las calaveras	unas cosas favoritas	

2. **Haz tu ofrenda.** Make your ofrenda.

3. **Escribe una descripción de tu ofrenda.** Write a description of your ofrenda.

Preguntas Sobre tu Ofrenda

1. ¿Para quién es la ofrenda?
2. ¿Cuándo nació la persona?
3. ¿Cuándo se murió la persona?
4. ¿Cuáles son las cosas favoritas?