El día de los muertos
Activity Packet
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Contents

Octavio Paz saying
Vocabulario
Matching
Word search
Double puzzle
Word scramble
Crossword puzzle
What did you learn?
Fill in the story
Letter home
Cierto o falso
Create a poster
Website search
What does it mean?
Answer Key
To the resident of New York, Paris or London
The word “death” is never pronounced
because it burns the lips.
Mexicans on the other hand
frequent it, caress it.
They sleep with it. They celebrate it.
It is one of their favorite games
and their most permanent love.

Octavio Paz
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>el día de los muertos</td>
<td>the day of the dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el hueso</td>
<td>the bone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la ofrenda</td>
<td>the offering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la flor</td>
<td>the flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la vela</td>
<td>the candle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la calavera</td>
<td>the skull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>las calacas</td>
<td>the skeletons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el pan de muertos</td>
<td>the bread of the dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el papel picado</td>
<td>the paper cut out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el mole</td>
<td>spicy chocolate sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el chapulín</td>
<td>the grasshopper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el copal</td>
<td>a type of incense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el panteón</td>
<td>the cemetery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la tumba</td>
<td>the tomb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el santo</td>
<td>the saint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el ángel</td>
<td>the angel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la máscara</td>
<td>the mask</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la tradición</td>
<td>the tradition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>señor Huesos</td>
<td>Mr. Bones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el mercado</td>
<td>the market</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Matching:

| 1. day of preparation        | A. panteón          |
| 2. flower of the dead        | B. November 2nd    |
| 3. spicy chocolate sauce     | C. papel picado    |
| 4. a type of incense         | D. altar           |
| 5. día de los santos         | E. calaveritas     |
| 6. cemetery                  | F. death           |
| 7. little sugar skulls       | G. sand sculptures |
| 8. used to show the path     | H. Cempoalxóchitl |
| 9. symbol of life after death| I. skeleton        |
| 10. Pre-Hispanic tradition   | J. special bread   |
| 11. worn to emulate deceased | K. copal           |
| 12. día de los muertos       | L. November 1st    |
| 13. cut out paper            | M. chapulín       |
| 14. Mexicans embrace it      | N. candles         |
| 15. pan de muertos           | O. mole            |
| 16. marigolds                | P. marigold       |
| 17. holds offering to dead   | Q. October 31st   |
| 18. grasshopper              | R. costumes        |

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Translate the following words into Spanish then find the Spanish word in the puzzle.

day of the dead ___________________ cemetery____________________
bone ___________________________ mask ______________________
offering _________________________ tomb _____________________
flower __________________________ skull ______________________
candle____________________________ grasshopper_________________
bread of the dead__________________
spicy chocolate sauce________________ type of incense_________________

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Unscramble the words then enter the letters in the corresponding number to reveal a saying.

Saying from the video:

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Word Scramble

Unscramble the following words:

esohu
eoml
bumat
áraamcs
acplo
lave
dorefan
nap ed emurost
óanpnet
elppa cidapo
aalvreac
íad ed slo emursto
laaccsa
otnas
luhpícna
gláne
Crossword Puzzle

Across
4. skull
5. special bread
11. spicy chocolate sauce
12. a type of incense
14. day of the dead

Down
1. candle
2. grasshopper
3. tomb
4. skeletons
5. paper cut-out
6. offering
7. mask
8. cemetery
9. bone
10. saint
13. flower

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What did you learn?

Answer the following questions from the material you learned in the video.

1. What is the date of \textit{el día de los muertos}?

2. What do the Mexicans believe death is?

3. Why do the Mexican put petals on the ground?

4. When the Aztec asked his god to show him a sign what happened?

5. What purpose do the candles have?

6. What do the skeletons represent?

7. When do the sand sculptures date back to?

8. What is celebrated on November 1\textsuperscript{st}?

9. Name a special food the Mexicans prepare for this celebration.

10. What do the Mexicans build to honor their deceased relatives?

11. Describe the atmosphere of this holiday.

12. Why do they wear costumes?
Fill in the Story:
Escoge una palabra de la lista para completar el siguiente párrafo.

En ______________ se celebra ________________ en el mes de ______________. Cada familia construye una ______________ para los difuntos de su familia. Compra ______________ como Cempoalxóchitl, ______________ para iluminar la noche y _________________.

El ________________ es el día de preparación. Visita el_______________ para comprar las cosas que necesita. Compra las ______________ de azúcar. Las panaderías están llenas de _________________. Hay ______________ que se hace de chocolate y especias. El primero de noviembre es el _________________.

Es el día cuando visitan a los ______________ difuntos. ______________ vienen. El ________________ es cuando la gente va al _________________. La familia visita la _________________ del difunto. El aire huele a fragancia de _________________. Hay una atmósfera _______________. Durante la fiesta la gente se disfraza de ______________ y diablos. Es una fecha muy importante para la gente de Oaxaca y México.

**Lista de palabras**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>31 de octubre</th>
<th>flores</th>
<th>noviembre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>copal</td>
<td>calaveras</td>
<td>papel picado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mercado de abastos</td>
<td>Oaxaca</td>
<td>alegre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>panes de muertos</td>
<td>calacas</td>
<td>2 de noviembre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los ángeles</td>
<td>ofrenda</td>
<td>el día de los muertos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>velas</td>
<td>niños</td>
<td>día de los santos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tumba</td>
<td>mole</td>
<td>panteón</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Letter Home

You have just spent the last three days in Oaxaca during the festival of “el día de los muertos.” Write a letter home describing the events you experienced. Include items such as your visit to the mercado, a visit to the panteón, what you saw and all the other activities of the past three days.
Cierto (true) o falso (false)

_____ Flowers are used to honor the deceased.
_____ Mexicans celebrate death.
_____ A food eaten for this holiday is grasshoppers.
_____ People buy and eat candy eggs for this holiday.
_____ This is a very sad time for Mexicans.
_____ Mexicans make sand sculptures to honor the dead.
_____ It is very quiet in the cemeteries on the day of the dead.
_____ Mexicans make altars to honor the dead.
_____ November 1st honors the deceased adults.
_____ Flower petals are used to create a pathway for the dead.
_____ The flower of the dead is the rose.
_____ Skeletons are a symbol of life after death.
_____ Mole is a spicy cheese sauce.
_____ People sing and dance in the cemetery.
_____ El día de los muertos is like a little carnival.
_____ They sell candy skulls.
_____ Pure happiness is why Mexicans play with death.
_____ Lanterns light the way for the dead.
_____ People dress up to imitate the dead when they were alive.
_____ Copal is burnt during the celebration.

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Create a Poster

You are the owner of a large marketplace in Oaxaca. Create a poster advertising the sale of things that people need to buy for the “day of the dead” celebration. Label the names and prices of all the items.

- calaveras 10 pesos
- fruta 25 pesos/kilo
- velas 25 pesos
- marigolds 50 pesos
Website Search:

Visit the following website:
http://www.mexconnect.com/mex_/muertos.html
Write a paragraph about what you learned from this article.

Visit the following website:
Explain how these ancient beliefs have been combined with the modern church of Mexico.
How is the altar prepared, what are the basic foods needed and why?
What do the colors of *papel picado* represent?

Visit the following website:
What is the role of toy making?

Visit the following website:
http://www.dayofthedead.com/Photographs.html
Look at the photographs. Describe four of them and explain what you think they represent.

Look for a website that has a recipe for mole - list some of the ingredients of this traditional Mexican dish.
What does it mean?

It is said that Mexicans do not fear death rather they embrace it - they celebrate it. What are some of the things that happen during this holiday that demonstrate this? List at least five.

1. ________________________________________________
2. ________________________________________________
3. ________________________________________________
4. ________________________________________________
5. ________________________________________________

Make a list of items Mexicans purchase to prepare for this holiday. Explain why they purchase them - what do they signify? List at least five items.

1. ________________________________________________
2. ________________________________________________
3. ________________________________________________
4. ________________________________________________
5. ________________________________________________

To the resident of New York, Paris or London
The word “death” is never pronounced because it burns the lips.
Mexicans on the other hand frequent it, caress it.
The sleep with it. They celebrate it.
It is one of their favorite games and their most permanent love. - Octavio Paz

Explain what Octavio Paz means in this statement.

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

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Answer Key

Matching
Q, P, O, K, L, A, E, N, I,
G, R, B, C, F, J, H, D, M

Word Search
 día de los muertos
 pan de muertos
copal
marigold
chapulín
ofrenda
máscara
día de los santos
tumba
panteón
velas
papel picado
señor Huesos
mole
flor

Saying:
We are not here for a long time,
We are here for a good time.

Word Scramble
hueso
mole
tumba
máscara
copal
vela
ofrenda
pan de muertos
panteón
papel picado
calavera
día de los muertos
calacas
santo
chapulín
ángel

Fill in the story
Oaxaca, el día de los muertos, noviembre, ofrenda, flores, velas, papel picado, 31 de octubre, mercado de abastos, calaveras, panes de muertos, mole, el día de los santos, niños, Los ángeles, 2 de noviembre, panteón, tumba, copal, alegre, calacas.

What did you learn?
1. November 2\textsuperscript{nd}
2. next stage of existence
3. show death path to follow
4. marigolds covered the ground
5. light the path
6. life after death
7. Pre-Hispanic time
8. El día de los santos
9. mole, pan de muertos
10. an offering/altar
11. festive/happy
12. honor the deceased