



Let's Celebrate Hispanic Culture



Queridas familias,

The goal of this lesson is to learn something about Hispanic culture while working on a fun activity at home. Below you will find some enrichment activities that you can try with your child. If you choose one of the following hands-on activities to complete with your child, send me a picture of the finished product. I would love to see how your project turns out. Let's celebrate Hispanic culture!

Activity Name

➤ **Mayan Codex**

Did you know?

The codex was used by both the Mayan and Aztec civilizations. It was like a foldout picture book written by a scribe. The codex recorded history, calendars, and information about the daily lives of the people. The scribes used glyphs, or picture symbols, to write the information.

https://www.kidsgen.com/school_projects/mayan_codex.htm

➤ **Maracas**

Did you know?

Festivals with music and dancing were vital parts of the Mayan and Aztec cultures. These events often included the musical sounds made from dried gourds or conch shells filled with seeds. Today, in Mexico and Central America, dancers reenact the ancient dances, often using an updated form of the maracas.

Egg Carton Maracas

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-and-experiments/musical-maracas>

Balloon Maracas

<https://kinderart.com/art-lessons/multic/balloon-maracas/>

➤ **Woven Place Mat**

Did you know?

It is important to have a pretty table at a fiesta (party). Much attention is paid to detail to make celebrations festive and decorative, including the place settings. Tables are often set with fine place mats. Follow these instructions to continue the ancient weaving tradition.

<https://www.dltk-kids.com/world/mexico/mplacemats.htm>

➤ **God's Eye (Ojo de Dios)**

Did you know?

A God's eye is a spiritual object made by weaving a design out of yarn upon a wooden cross. Often several colors are used. They are commonly found in Mexican and Mexican American communities, among both Indigenous and Catholic peoples.

<https://happyhooligans.ca/gods-eye-craft-weaving-for-kids/>

https://youtu.be/X53ZXcHoR_c

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VoNWAhEcUuA>

➤ **Yarn Painting**

Did you know?

The Huichol Indians of Mexico are known for their yarn paintings. The Huichols take beeswax which they melt in the sun and spread it over a piece of wood. They then push colored yarn into the wax to create images.

<https://kinderart.com/art-lessons/multic/yarn-painting/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WL33IXChgnI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blzAJvZDZcE>

➤ **Paper Bag or Fabric Poncho**

Did you know?

The poncho is a well-known garment with unsewn sides and a space for the head to pass through. Having been worn by Mexican people for hundreds of years, the poncho is closely linked to Mexican culture and considered an iconic Mexican symbol.

<https://kinderart.com/art-lessons/multic/make-a-poncho/>

➤ **Sun God Sculpture**

Did you know?

Most native groups worshipped at least one sun god, such as the Aztec god Huitzilopochtli. Below are instructions to make a representation of a sun god, a recognizable icon in Hispanic history.

<http://lifesadventures-amb.blogspot.com/2013/11/art-project-for-incas-aztecs-and-mayans.html>

➤ **Piñatas**

Did you know?

The piñata did not originate from Mexico. It was brought to Mexico by Marco Polo from Italy. The Italian nobility played a game called pignatta with a clay bowl filled

with expensive items and hung on a rope. The object was to break the clay pot and scramble for the riches.

Paper Bag Piñata

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/diy-paper-bag-pinata-craft-1253061>

https://www.dltk-kids.com/world/mexico/simple_paper_bag_pinata.htm

Papier-Mâché / Balloon Piñatas

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44JYARhkFe8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHs_fTiop98

<https://kinderart.com/art-lessons/crafts/pinatas/>

<https://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-a-Pi%C3%B1ata-Using-a-Balloon/>

➤ **Tissue Paper Flowers**

Did you know?

Carnival is a time with a fun, party-like atmosphere and much decoration and adornment. People throw flowers at others, and the children try to crack eggs filled with confetti on the heads of those passing by.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOsZJ9VPyNg#action=share>

<https://www.instructables.com/id/Mexican-Paper-Flowers/>

➤ **Papel Picado**

Did you know?

Papel picado (perforated paper) is a Mexican popular art form with roots in the country's ancient cultures. Today, professional craftsmen use special tools to make intricate designs in tissue paper. This tissue paper is used to make festive banners.

https://dltk-kids.com/world/mexico/mpapel_picado.htm

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sT6-5YFpujg>

➤ **Sand-Painted Carpets**

Did you know?

In some places, people craft special carpets on Maundy Thursday to cover the main streets for the procession that takes place on Good Friday. The carpets are made using sawdust, flowers, and dirt mixed with colorful dyes to create designs and pictures. For the procession, the people dress in costume to reenact the journey of Jesus to the crucifixion.

<https://kinderart.com/art-lessons/multic/sand-painting/>

➤ **Mini Sombrero**

Did you know?

A sombrero is a type of wide-brimmed hat from Mexico, used to shield from the sun. Mariachis wear elaborately decorated charro suits that consist of a waist-length jacket, bow tie, fitted pants, short boots, and a wide-brimmed sombrero.

<https://funfamilycrafts.com/mini-sombreros/>

<http://frogsandsnailsandpuppydogtail.com/mini-sombrero-craft-for-cinco-de-mayo/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O44XRWDfR_U&feature=youtu.be

Gracias,
Señora Peace

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