

# Learn About Latin American Painting and Art

Target Audience: Grades 3-5

## RELATED CONTENT AREAS

World Geography & Cultures, Visual Art , Spanish

## OVERVIEW

This hands-on and interactive presentation introduces students to different styles of painting in Latin American art. The presentation reviews styles such as murals, canvas, surrealism, and alebrijes. The event will present a slideshow of images and explanation of these different artistic forms in Mexico and Latin America by looking at important painters like Diego Rivera, Fernando Botero, Salvador Dali, and local community painting styles found in alebrijes. The presentation also includes Spanish vocabulary exposure, and finishes with a creative class activity where students get to create their own Latin American painting-inspired artwork.

## STANDARDS

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade World Geography and Cultures: 3.32 Use timelines to summarize the history of a region.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Visual Art: 4.1 Explore the relationship of art from different cultures, time, and places.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Visual Art: 4.2 Examine and demonstrate how culture, history, and art influence each other.

Modern Languages Elementary K-5: 2.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.

## OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to recognize and identify Latin American painting styles from different time periods and countries and connect these styles to different cultures.
- Students will be able to make artistic observations about the art they see.
- Students will be able to relate the artwork they see to other forms of art they know of (photography, sculpture, etc.) and art they like to make.

## VOCABULARY

Arte	Murales	
Pinturas	Imágenes	alebrijes
artista	madera	

## TIME

45 minutes

## MATERIALS

Computer with projector, internet connection, paper, crayons, markers, and/or colored pencils.

## PROCEDURE

### PRE-EVENT MATERIALS

Show students the LA Times [video](#) that introduces the art of alebrijes. Ask them to describe what they observed from the art: what kinds of colors are used? What material are the objects made from? Is this difficult work?

### WORKSHOP

1. Ask students what they thought of the pre-event video of alebrijes and ask for their artistic observations. Show them example of alebrije (brought to class) and ask them to describe it.
2. Using the slides in the PowerPoint, present students with images of Latin American painting and discuss the artists behind the work and culture.
3. Provide Spanish vocabulary throughout presentation and ask students to identify what types of paintings they see with it.
4. Ask students driving questions found below about each artwork presented.
5. Have students think about how they create their own masterpiece of art using ideas from the painting examples presented and ask them about the importance of art in their culture.
6. Provide students with materials for hands-on activity in which they create their own Latin American-inspired artwork.

### DRIVING QUESTIONS

- Why is art important?
- What kinds of art do you make/have you made/like?
- Art observation questions: what do you see? What kinds of colors are there? Does the painting make you feel anything? What is special about it? What is being shown in the painting? Is it serious or funny?

### HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

The students will be able to create their Latin American-inspired art piece. The event will provide coloring pages of a Mexican Mural, alebrijes outlines, or the students may make their own drawing on blank paper using inspired aspects of the art we saw (surrealist, geometrical lines, etc.).

### MODIFICATIONS

For shorter sessions, hands-on activity can be omitted. For higher grade levels, a more in-depth discussion of the artists and cultures they came from to add additional context.

## EVALUATION

If desired, teachers can display student art work as a “Latin American-Inspired Gallery.”