

Día de los Muertos

Originally written for 5th grade, but could be adapted for grades 3-12.

DESIRED RESULTS	
Lesson Objective(s)	<p>Content Learning Target: Students will be able to understand the cultural significance of Día de los Muertos traditions</p> <p>Language Learning Target: Students will be able to define Día de los Muertos and explain how the holiday honors the deceased</p>
Lesson Key Points <i>(Concepts required to understand the objective, and to be expressed by scholars once they've mastered it)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Día de los Muertos is a holiday in Mexico in which people remember loved ones who have passed away. It is a celebration where people remember, rejoice and celebrate death. • <i>Altars</i> are set up to honor the dead. The spirits are believed to visit relatives and feast on the <i>ofrendas</i> displayed on the <i>altars</i>. Many of the things the dead person liked are placed on the altar such as foods, drinks, toys, and games. • Components of a traditional ofrenda: Water, salt, <i>calavera</i> (sugar skull), flowers, toys, bread, papel picado, foods, etc.
Academic Language (Vocabulary, Discourse)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altar • Ofrenda • Calavera • Día de los Muertos 	

EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS	
Checks for Understanding	<p>Lesson Assessment</p> <p><i>(What does mastery look like? How will you determine whether or not scholars have mastered your objective and deepened their understanding of the content?)</i></p>
Build into Learning Plan below.	<p>SWBAT create and assemble a display of traditional components of Day of the Dead while expressing their own cultural identity.</p>

PREPARE FOR SUCCESS	
Materials Needed	Other Reminders, Notes, or Context
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer/projector • PowerPoint presentation • Scissors (papel picado, sugar skull) • Tape (papel picado) • String (papel picado) • Tissue paper, various colors (papel picado) • Papel picado stencils • Sugar skull examples, paper and real • Sugar skull paper photocopy (cardstock) 	<p>Students will work in small groups of 4-5 students to create a Día de los Muertos display inspired by traditional Day of the Dead offerings.</p>

LEARNING PLAN

Agenda (Major steps or points of transition)	Minutes	Description of Instruction (Teacher/Scholar Actions)	Notes <i>(Reminders, key points, scripted question/other CFUs, anticipated misconceptions, etc.)</i>
Scholars will view and discuss a short introductory animated film. Scholars will participate in the significance of Día de los Muertos and view images of traditional ofrendas.	20	Introduction video of <i>Día de los Muertos</i> , discussion	Draw attention to symbols, colors, and story in the video. Brainstorm and list elements on the board. <i>What happened in this story?</i> <i>What are some symbols in the video?</i> Teacher will facilitate discussion surrounding Día de los Muertos and its meaning, traditions and customs.
Scholars will work independently. Teacher will provide examples of completed projects, as well as authentic examples.	30	Part 1 Project Introduction, norms & material introductions	Teacher will explain and demonstrate the goal of expressing oneself through creating papel picado banners and decorating paper boxes.
Scholars will clean up workstations and participate in a brain break dancing song.	10	Clean up materials, brain break	<i>Please place your art expressions on your desk, clean up your workstations and put all materials away.</i> Teacher will put on this song for students to stretch and dance to.

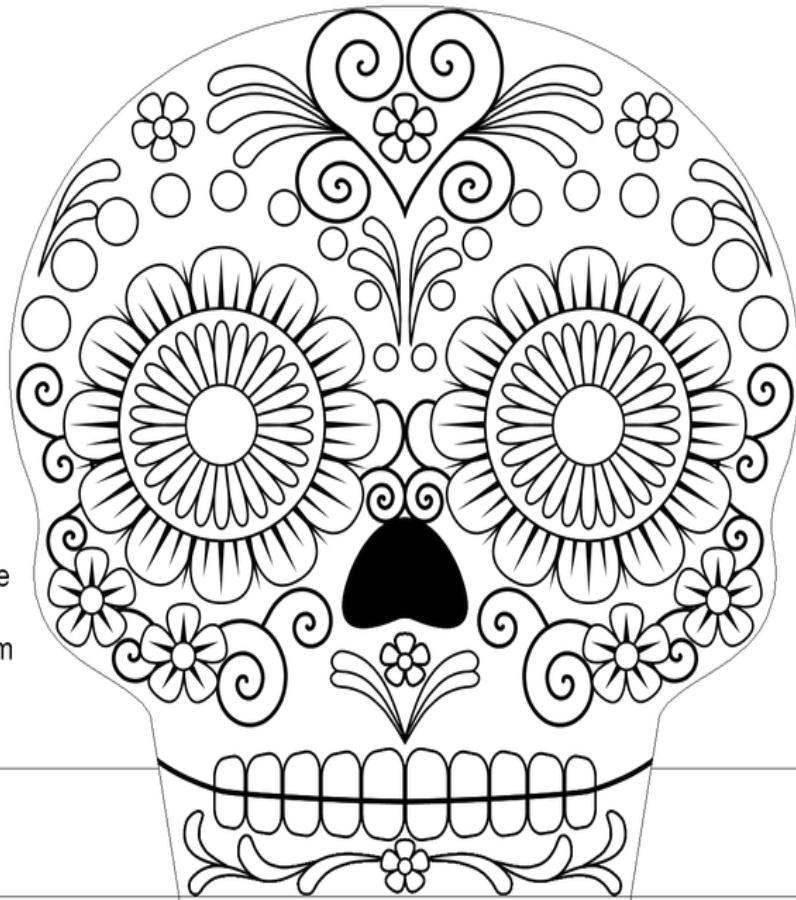
Scholars will rotate to sit with their pre-assigned groups. Groups pre-assigned by teacher.	10	Part 2 Project Introduction, norms	Teacher will explain and demonstrate to students the goal of creating a Día de los Muertos display utilizing components created in part 1 and other provided materials (box, construction paper, salt, string). Teacher will set norms for group work time. Teacher will introduce materials and components to include.
Teacher will provide example photos of authentic Día de los Muertos displays. <i>Notice that no two ofrendas are the same!</i>	30	Group work time to create Display	Scholars will work with their groups of 4-5 students to create a Display. Students are provided materials in a shoebox to create Day of the Dead Display on/around shoebox. 5 minute warning: <i>We will now make sure our table spaces are neat and organized for the gallery walk. Please make sure your display is ready!</i>
Students will clean their table spaces on a Zone 0 and may move freely about the room to stretch while song is playing.	5	Music Immersion for gallery walk	<i>You may move about the room to view other altars on a Zone 0 while this song plays</i>
	10	Reflection in Artist journal	Scholars will reflect on the activities in their artist journals.
Scholars will prepare for dismissal on a Zone 0.	5	World Music Immersion	Scholars will clean and line up for dismissal while this song plays.

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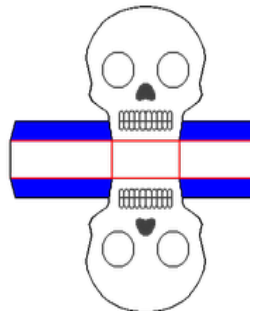
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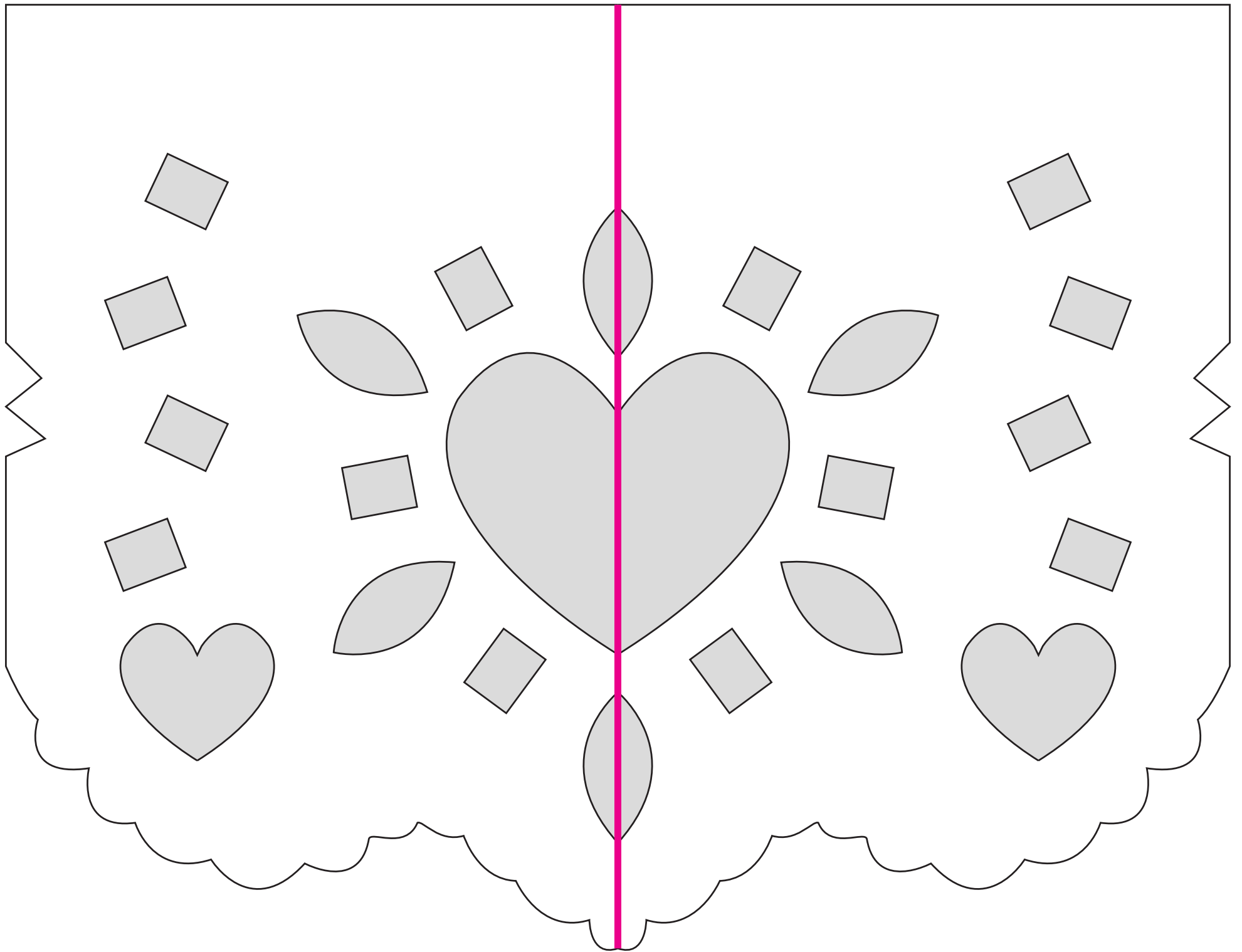
Created by Lisa Finelli

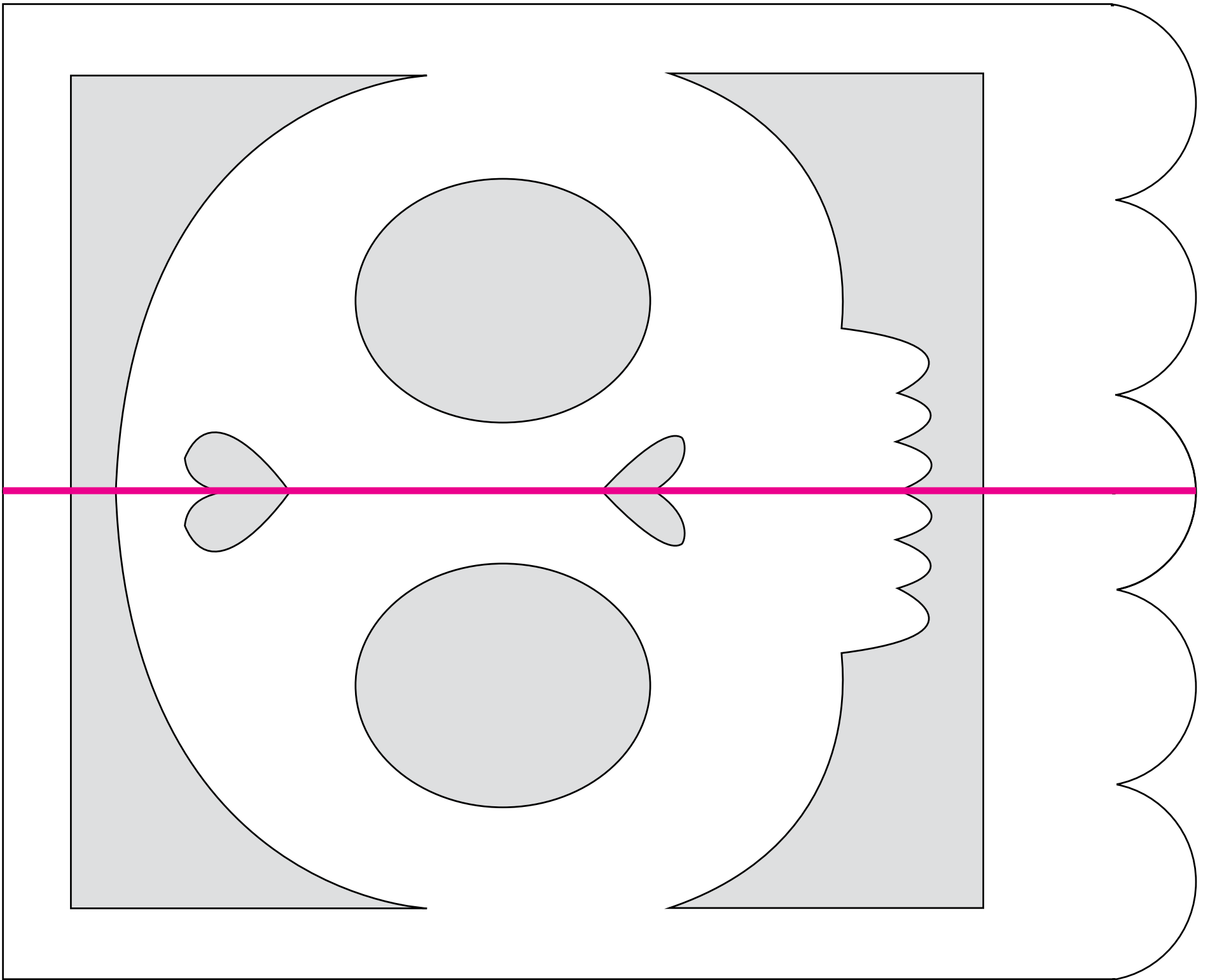
Sugar Skull Treat Box Template
by Shala Kerrigan
<http://www.donteatthepaste.com>
Don't Eat the Paste



On the diagram to the right,
dashed lines indicate lines you cut,
solid lines indicate lines you score
and fold.
Fold the sides in at 90 degrees,
and glue tabs shown in blue to
the inside of the treat box.
The sides do not extend beyond the
box.
Final dimensions 3 inches high,
2 inches wide, 1 inch deep.







CULTURAL CRAFT

4 KIDS

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MAKE YOUR OWN:

Mexican Papel Picado

BACKGROUND:

Papel picado is the Mexican art of cutting tissue paper to make elaborate banners. This folk art is displayed for all sorts of religious ceremonies as well as personal celebrations, but especially for the Day of the Dead (November 1 and 2). Traditionally, small chisels are used to create up to 40 banners at a time but scissors or an X-Acto knife (adults only) can be used to achieve the same result.

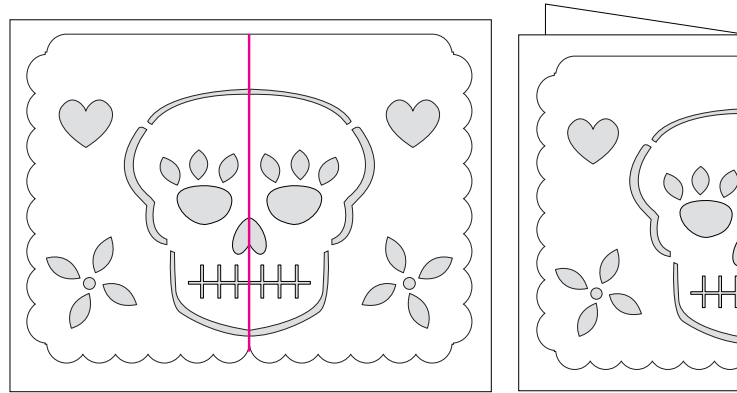
MATERIALS:

Papel picado template
Tissue paper
Sharp scissors or X-Acto knife (adults only)

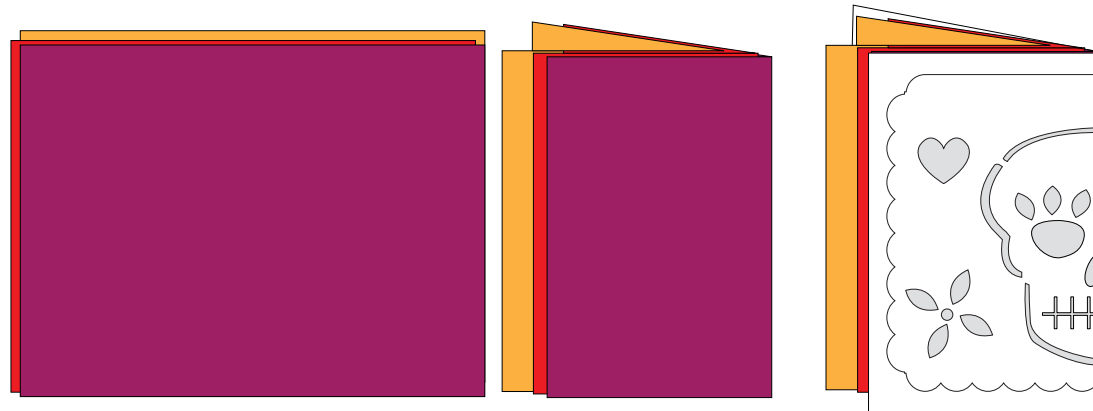
INSTRUCTIONS:

Print out the Papel picado templates and fold in half. Fold a stack of 4-5 pieces of tissue paper in half and tuck inside the folded template. Use scissors or an X-Acto to cut out the gray areas and the scalloped edges. Unfold and hang together with a string!

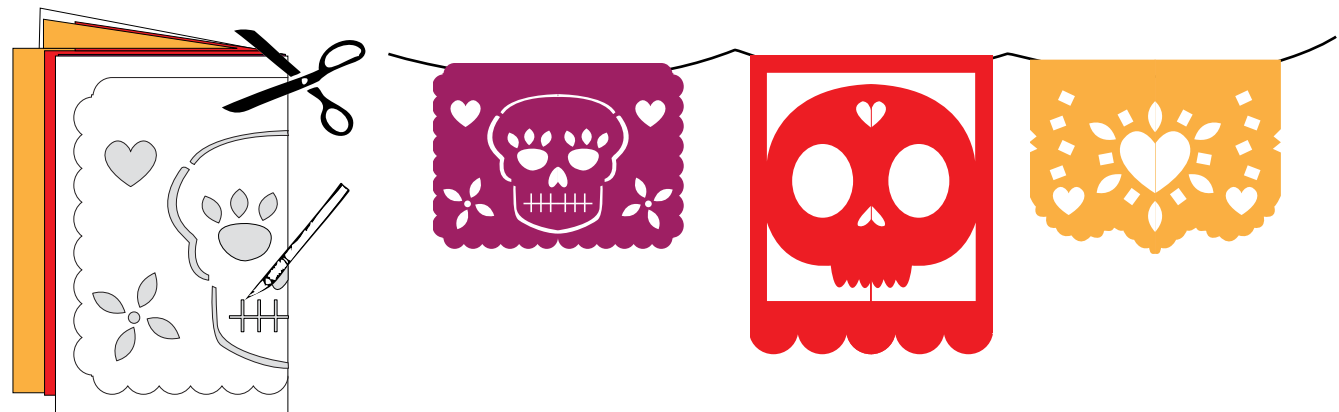
STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



References:

<http://www.dpsk12.org/programs/almaproject/pdf/EIAdielosMuertos.pdf>

<http://web.calstatela.edu/faculty/jshindl/teaching/GloriaDuranISP.htm>

<https://aupairbuzz.culturalcare.com/cultural-craft-for-kids-mexican-papl-picado/>

<http://www.donteatthepaste.com/2011/09/dia-de-los-muertos-sugar-skull-boxes.html>