

TITLE: Día de los Muertos S.W.A.P.

OBJECTIVE: To have a cultural S.W.A.P. for Día de los Muertos and a historical context of what the celebration is and where it comes from.

TIME: 30 - 40 minutes

MATERIALS:

- Skull bead
- Pipe cleaner, string or wire
- Different color beads
- Flower shaped bead or sequin
- Assortment of thin tip permanent markers
- Safety pin

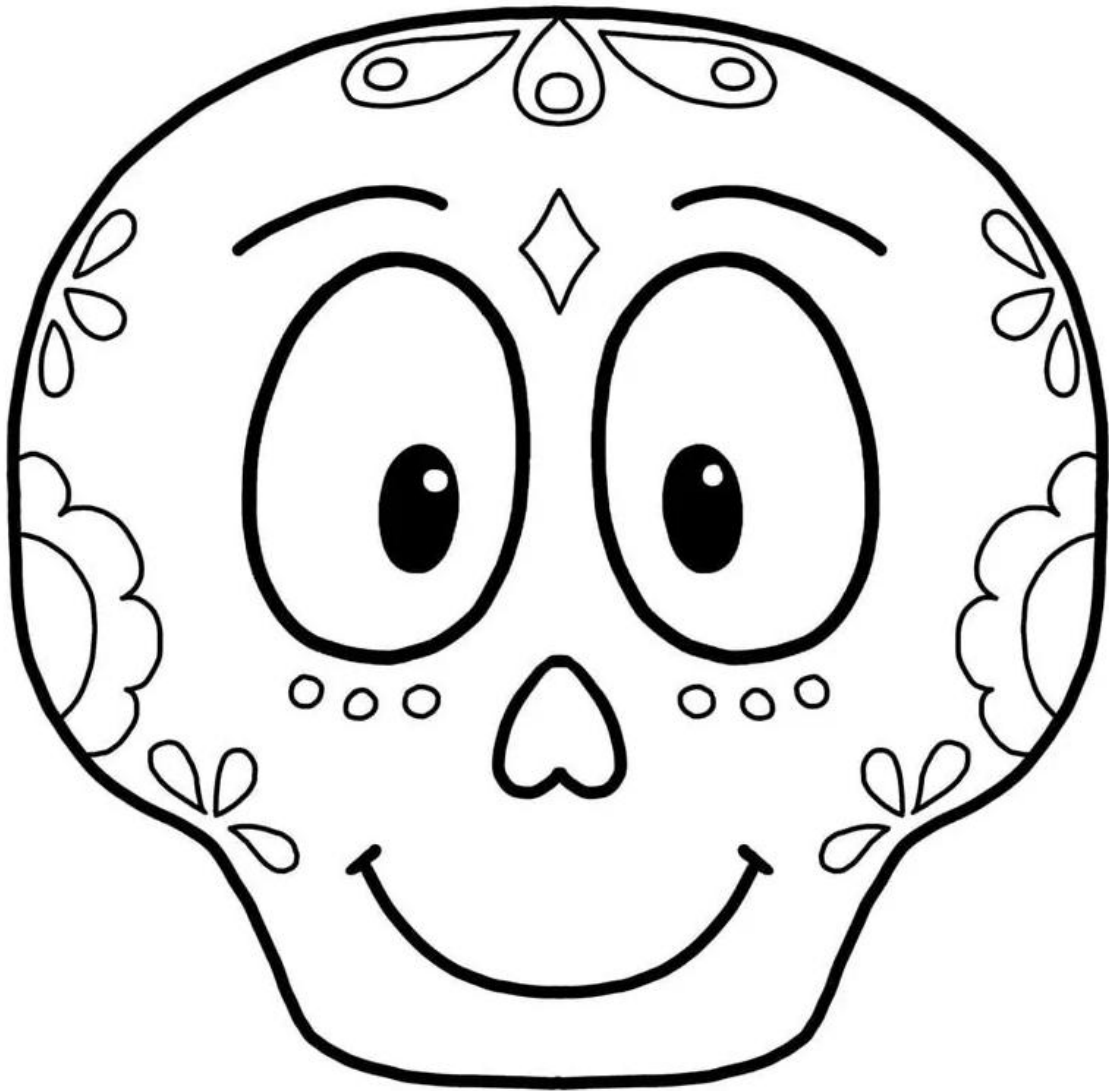


INSTRUCTIONS:

Pre-work – Print coloring sheet and have all the items sorted and ready to be used in an assembly line fashion.

1. **5 min.** - When ready, ask for 2 volunteers to read the promise and law.
2. **5 min.** – Ask if anyone knows what Día de los Muertos is and share the history: Día de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, is a 3,000 year old, joyful two-day celebration on November 1st and 2nd where families remember and honor loved ones who have passed away that originated in Latin America. Families often make ofrendas and place the 4 elements (water, fire, wind and water) on a display with pictures of loved ones that have passed. This can be a cup of water, papel picado for wind, a candle for fire, and foods they enjoyed eating for earth. Other items can include flowers, other items representing things they liked as well as sugar skulls.
3. **20 min.** – Each person gets a piece of pipe cleaner or string, skull bead, flower and up 1 - 3 different beads they want to add to their S.W.A.P. Add whichever bead you want to be at the bottom. On the next bead, add both ends of the string through the hole so that the bottom bead is trapped at the bottom. String the rest of the beads up this way. You can either draw with the sharpies before stringing the skull bead or at the end of stringing. The flower goes right above the skull bead and then you tie/ twist the string or pipe cleaner to the safety pin. Done! Now you can pin it affectionately somewhere. *Scan QR code for video.*
4. **10 min.** - Wrap it all up with having the girls clean up and leaving the space cleaner than how they found it. Line them up and go back to their program site, caregiver, etc.

Discuss: Who is someone that has passed away that you remember? The movie Coco is about Dia de los Muertos. What new things did you learn from watching it? How do you celebrate family and friends that have passed away?



DÍA DE MUERTOS

Sugar skulls, or *calaveras*, are common sights during Day of the Dead. They are often decorated with bright colors, especially orange, purple, yellow, and pink.