

## Curricular Connections & Extensions

### Celebration and Ceremony

#### English Language Arts/Literacy

##### CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

- Continue the conversation about celebrations around the world by reading the book: *Let's Celebrate! Special Days Around the World* by Kate Depalma. This book is a great introduction to holidays celebrated around the world such as Children's Day in Japan, Spring Festival in China, and more.

#### Elementary Social Studies Standards

##### Goal 5.1: Build an understanding of multiple perspectives and global interdependence.

- Show clips from the movie *Coco* and talk about Dia de los Muertos.
- Show images of the kinds masks used specifically for this celebration, and compare them to the masks discussed previously, also from Mexico.
- This holiday is also celebrated by many people in America. Find out where Dia de los Muertos festivals happen every year in the United States.
- Discuss the holiday's traditions and objects commonly used during the festivities.
- Discuss the emphasis on remembering loved ones who have passed. Have students find images of great-grandparents, ancestors they do not know much about, or someone in history. Have them research this person and find out what they were like. Have students create an artwork, poem, or short story as an ode to this person. Display them in the classroom.

*Please note: It is considered cultural appropriation to create calaveras (sugar skulls), skull masks, or other imagery from Dia de los Muertos unless these objects are culturally significant to you, since these objects originated in Indigenous communities in Mexico.*

**OR**

- Connect your classroom to another classroom elsewhere in the world using the online platform [empatico.org](https://empatico.org). *Empatico* is a free tool that connects classrooms around the world via video chat, online activities, and games, and more. *Empatico* empowers teachers and students to explore the world through

experiences that spark curiosity, kindness, and empathy.

**Goal 2.1: Analyze the spatial organizations of people, places, and environment on the earth's surface.**

- Use this discussion as an introduction to maps. Give students a printed world map with dots or stars indicating each country discussed in this experience. Students should label or add to their map according to their grade level's standards. (Color in the land & sea, add a compass, label continents, etc.)
- When complete, come back to the last slide of the discussion, which shows the locations of all of the masks on the world map. Lead students through labeling their maps with the countries discussed (United States, Mexico, Liberia, Ivory Coast, and Indonesia).
- Have students identify the continents corresponding to each of these countries.

**Math**

**Measurement and Data – K-3. MD**

- “Math First Peoples Teacher Resource Guide,” is curriculum developed in Canada by the First Nations Education Steering Committee. They provide an inclusive and engaging curriculum designed for the success of all students.
- On page 97 you will find a series of lessons based on the theme “Ceremony and Storytelling,” with one lesson on how to carve masks that fit onto a human face using math strategies.

<http://www.fnesc.ca/math-first-peoples/>