

Spanish Culture Project



Spanish-Speaking Country Project

1. Choose a topic from the list below, (if you have a different topic, please ask)

This project will be worked on in class as well as outside of class. Each of you will select a culture topic (listed below or another topic if approved in advance) and research that cultural event/activity/group. A 5 minute oral report will be presented to the class. You may use posters, overheads, music/video or any other type of visual when making their presentation and/or any other items to enhance their topic. Food items may be part of report but are NOT required. Students may work individually or in groups of no more than 2.

Possible topics are:

- La Quinceañera (15 year old birthday celebration in México)
- Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)
- Semana Santa (Holy Week in Spain)
- La Navidad (Christmas in Spanish Speaking countries)
- Día de Los Tres Reyes (Three Kings Day in Spanish Speaking countries)
- San Fermines (Running of the Bulls)
- La tomatina
- Aztecs Incas Mayas

- Cinco de Mayo Revolution
- Music And Dance of México and/or Spain
- Artists of Spain and/or México
- National Dress of Spanish speaking countries

• **Barcelona, Spain**

-La Sagrada Familia, Las Ramblas, La Catedral

• **Madrid, Spain**

-El Prado, Royal Palace, Puerta del Sol, Plaza Mayor

• **Seville, Spain**

-Feria de Abril

• **Music and Dance of Spain**

-Flamenco/Sevillanas, History of the Dances, Components of the dances, Regional Dances, Instruments, teach the class a dance

• **Spanish Cuisine**

Eating habits, history of the cuisine, how food varies from each region, eating etiquette

• **Mexican Cuisine**

- Eating habits, history of the cuisine, how food varies from each region, eating etiquette

• Festivals and Holidays of Spain

Do NOT include every holiday! Pick major holidays/festivals. What interests you? Running of the Bulls, La Tomatina, Las Fallas, New Years, Christmas, Easter etc....

• Influential People of Spain

Francisco Franco, Manolo Blahnik, Jose Maria Aznar, Penelope Cruz. Who are these people? Why are they important? What is something interesting about them? Why should I care about them?

• Sports and Athletes of Spain

Bullfighting- history of the sport, who are the main players? what role does everyone have? What are some popular sports played in Spain? Famous Athletes. Are there school sports? Learn a new sport from Spain and teach the class how to play.

• Writers of Spain

Miguel de Cervantes, Camilo José Cela What makes their writing unique? What did they write? Why are they famous?

• Mexico City, Mexico

History- how was the city built? El Zocalo What are some sites of Mexico City?

- The U.S.A. and Mexico- Past and Present History and Relations
- Monuments and Landmarks of Mexico

- Writers of Mexico

You may use note cards for your presentation, but they are not to be read. They should have only key information on them and be used to remind you of your information.

Cultural Project Ideas:

PREPARE/OFFER SAMPLES OF AUTHENTIC FOOD

The student must find an authentic recipe he/she can prepare. The dish must be authentic—not an American dish with a Hispanic name. (i.e. “Taco dip”) It may not be store bought (although the ingredients may be).

- The student must prepare the dish at home and bring in enough for the class to sample it.
- The student is responsible for bringing in forks, napkins, etc.
- The student must also include a report that includes: the recipe, a paragraph about what country and/or region it is from, and a paragraph that explains when the dish is typically eaten and any information about traditions associated with the food.
- A poster with pictures of you making the dish is required or a video.
- You **MUST** get parents' permission to do this culture project!
- **YOU** are the one to do the preparations. This is **NOT** a last minute project that can be thrown together the night before it's due. Plan ahead!

COLLAGE DEPICTING HISPANIC CULTURE

This project is designed for the artistically inclined student. The pictures involved can be hand drawn, photos, magazine cut outs etc...just be creative...however they must center around a common theme relating to Hispanic culture. The theme can be a country, a tradition, food, social issues, etc...

- The pictures should be put into a collage on poster board at least 12" x 18" and the student will present and discuss the collage with the class.
- The student will also prepare a summary describing the medium used for the project and the cultural significance of the items in the collage.

REVIEW OF A HISPANIC BOOK

This project is for the student who likes to read. The student should find a book written in English by a Hispanic author or one that is about Hispanic life. It could also be a children's book. You may not choose a book that was originally written in English then translated to Spanish. The student should read the book and summarize it in writing.

- A summary should be in paragraphs
- The student should also include biographical information about the author
- Create a PowerPoint presentation to present the information. Sr. Silva Español

REVIEW OF A HISPANIC MOVIE

The student should watch a movie about Hispanic life, people, places, etc.

- The student will write a summary of the movie. The summary should be in paragraphs
- The student should also include biographical information on main characters (if they are historic characters) or the author of the screenplay.
- A PowerPoint presentation must be done to be presented which it should include a clip of the movie.

RECITE A HISPANIC POEM

For this project, the student will find an authentic poem, in Spanish, to recite in front of the class. Pronunciation counts so meet with the teacher beforehand to practice!

- The student should write a report in summarizing or translating the poem
- Also include biographical information about the author as well as information on the significance of the particular poem.
- The student can also discuss themes present in the poem.

SING OR PERFORM AN AUTHENTIC SONG

For this project the student will find an authentic song and either perform it on an instrument or sing it in class.

- The students will also have a report
- The student can discuss the origin of the song and any historical background information about the music or the composer.
- A PowerPoint presentation can be use to present the information.

LEARN AND PERFORM AN AUTHENTIC DANCE

The student will learn a dance native to Hispanic culture and will then perform it in front of the class. Up to four students may work together on this

- The students will also write a report about the origin of the dance and any historical background information about the dance. No “Macarena”!
- Prepare a PowerPoint presentation to present the information.

REPORT ON A FAMOUS ARTIST, PAINTER or ARCHITECT, FASHION DESIGNER, ETC.

The student will research a famous artist, painter or architect.

- Students will write a report including biographical information
- The student will also describe the artist’s significant works and contributions.
- Student should also bring examples in color of the artist’s work to share with the class.
- Create a PowerPoint presentation or poster to present the information.

BIOGRAPHY OF A FAMOUS HISPANIC PERSON

The student will write a report on a well known Hispanic person. That person may be a famous politician, peacemaker, athlete, author, Nobel prize winner or other influential person who made a difference in our lives.

- Students will write a report in describing the life of a well known Hispanic person.

- The report should include pictures or other helpful imagery to enhance the report in a PowerPoint presentation or poster.

MAKE A HISPANIC CRAFT

The student will create a representative craft from Hispanic culture. They should research the craft's history, purpose or other significant facts about the craft and how it is used in a particular Hispanic culture.

- These facts should be written in paragraphs report
- The student should also explain how they created the final product.
- Create a PowerPoint presentation or poster to present the information.

Student understanding and awareness of the unique culture of a Spanish-speaking country

Criteria	Working Towards	Achieved	Merit	Excellence
Information	You have included information that is mostly irrelevant or not in your own words	You have included some information that is relevant to your chosen Spanish speaking country project	You have included information, with some supporting examples, that is relevant Spanish speaking country project	You have included detailed information, with supporting examples, that is all relevant Spanish speaking country project
Visuals	You have made limited use of visuals to communicate your understanding of Spanish speaking country project	You have used some visuals to communicate your understanding of your chosen Spanish speaking country project	You have used visuals to communicate your understanding of your Spanish	You have effectively used visuals to communicate your understanding of your Spanish

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Presentation	You have yet to try to make it engaging to the class	You have attempted to make it engaging to the class	You have overall made it engaging to the class	You have successfully made it engaging to the class
Time Management	You have not submitted evidence of your assessment by the due date:	You have not submitted evidence of your assessment by the due date:	You submitted evidence of your assessment by the due date:	You submitted evidence of your assessment by the due date: