

OCTOBER: Tin & Colorful Sugar Skulls Banner

Art Appreciation with Dia de los Muertos

Essential Question: How can I celebrate a cultural holiday with art?



| Supplies Needed | Art Vocabulary: | Learning Target: | Meets WA Learning Standard: |
|---|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skull print out (Optional) | Color | Students can celebrate a cultural holiday with visual art. Students can demonstrate an understanding of patterns. | VA:Cn11.1.1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pencils | Pattern | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colored pencils/crayons/markers | Line | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy Duty aluminum foil | Shape | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long string & tape (optional) | Negative space | | |

| Instructions: |
|--|
| Show students facts and ideas about Dia de los Muertos . Then, show them images of sugar skulls . Ask them what they notice about the color, shapes, lines and patterns. |
| Optional: Give each student a blank skull printout. For older kids, they can draw the skull on blank paper. |
| Show students how to create a pattern with circles, lines and flower shapes. You can show them the examples linked above for inspiration. |
| Have students decorate their paper skull with patterns, lines and shapes. Color them in, leaving the negative space white. For older learners, encourage them to use at least three different patterns. |
| Next, give each student an 8.5' x 11" piece of aluminum foil and a dull pencil (not sharp) Lay the colored skull on top of the shiny side of foil. |
| Carefully trace all the lines on their skull, including the shape of the skull with the back edge of a colored pencil or dull pencil. Be sure not to press too hard and rip the foil. Then, remove the colored skull and trace directly onto the foil <i>again</i> to deepen the lines. |
| Optional: Have students cut out both the colored paper skull and the tin foil skull, <u>leaving a tab at the top</u> to be folded over onto a string. Using clear tape, have students attach both tin and colored skulls to a long string to create a whole class banner for the classroom or hallway. |

Pro Tips for Success:

- For those with limited time (20 min) break this project into small parts:
 - 1) Draw the designs on the paper skull
 - 2) Color the skull designs
 - 3) Trace onto the tinfoil skull and cut out
 - 4) Tape onto the string to decorate the classroom
- Don't be too rigid with students, let them have autonomy. If they are creating things on the skulls that aren't the project given, that's okay too (as long as it is school appropriate). Let kids just ENJOY the process of making art.
- For students who work quickly, give them some options:
 - 1) Make another skull & color it/make several smaller skulls
 - 2) Make another tin skull
 - 3) Play with the leftover tinfoil and create a tinfoil sculpture or flower
- For classrooms who are really excited about this project, use construction paper, tinfoil or tissue paper and create flowers to add to your sugar skull decoration string!

