



## READ YOUR WORLD



### Themes

- holidays
- cultural traditions
- languages
- family
- people around the world

### Cross-Curricular Connections

#### Reading

picture clues  
making connections  
sequencing

#### Writing

to explain  
to inform

#### Art

Mexican folk art

#### Language

English/Spanish text

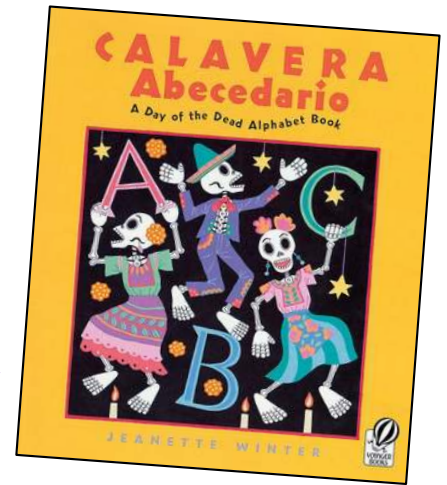
#### Geography

Mexico

## Calavera Abecedario

*A Day of the Dead Alphabet Book*

Don Pedro learned how to make skeletons from his father, who made beautiful *calaveras* for **Día de los Muertos** - a Mexican fiesta that honors the dead and celebrates the living. And just like his father, Don Pedro teaches his sons and they teach their sons, and together as a family they work to bring the *calaveras* to life.



Jeanette Winter shares the story of Don Pedro and his family in *Calavera Abecedario: A Day of the Dead Alphabet Book*. Learn how *calaveras* are made, how traditions are passed down, and the intricate beauty of Mexican folk art.

From Ángel to Zapatero, the detailed and colorful ABC illustrations make this book fun and engaging for readers of all ages. Learn some Spanish, and get to know Don Pedro's real-life family, whose skeletons have adorned festivals in Mexico for many years.

## Activities

### Reading Strategies

**Focus on:** *determining meaning using picture and word clues*

- Ask students to guess the meaning of each Spanish word and to identify the clues that helped them.  
\* *A glossary is provided in the back of the book.*

**Focus on:** *text-to-self connections*

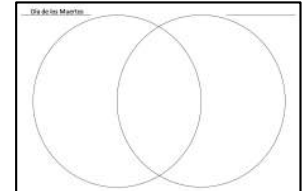
- Model the connections you make to yourself when reading aloud to kids. Ask students to share theirs.  
In what ways do students relate to the text?



### ➤ Compare & Contrast

Have students compare Día de los Muertos with Halloween, or another holiday they celebrate. How are they similar? How are they different?

Use our Venn diagram, or have students create their own organizer, to show their thinking.




### ➤ People Around the World

Don Pedro Linares wasn't only famous for his calaveras, but he was also famous for his papier-mâché monsters, or **alebrijes**.



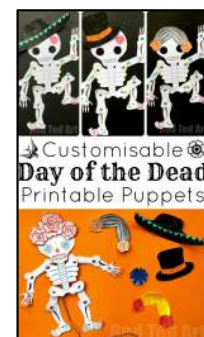
Learn more about this famous Mexican folk artist, and use our biography organizer to record facts and information about his life and accomplishments.

Check out the Author's Note at the end of the book. Read his [biography](#). Watch a [video](#).

BIOGRAPHY ORGANIZER	
Who is this AMAZING human?	
 Draw a Picture <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	Full Name
	Place of Birth
	Birthday
<b>LIFE</b>	
Accomplishments	<b>FUN FACTS</b> ↓
Lessons we can learn	

### ➤ Art

Get crafty with these free printable and [customisable puppets](#). Create a new page for the book, make a bulletin board display, or use for a creative writing activity.



**POST: [Discover the Traditions of Día de los Muertos](#)**



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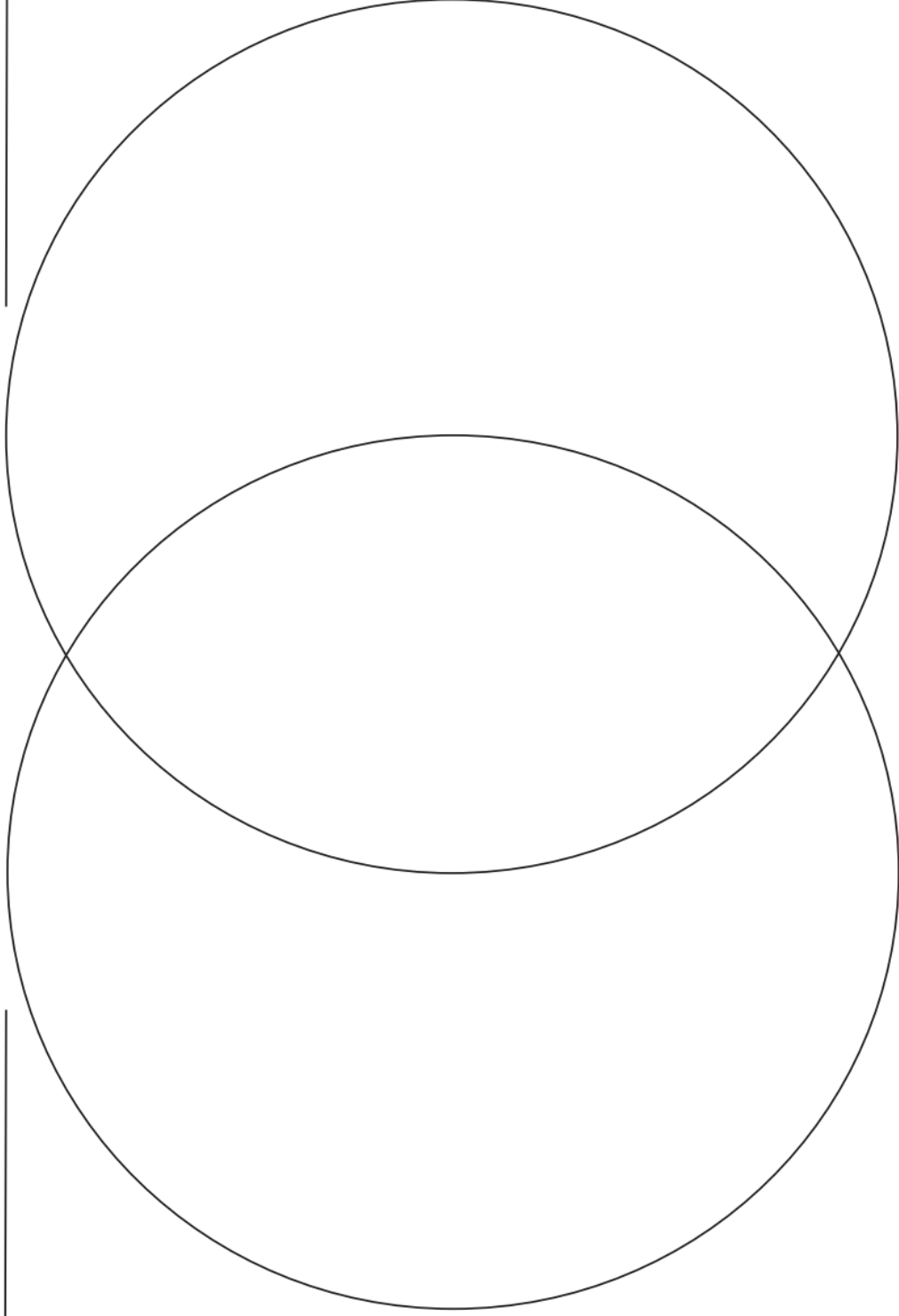
# Activities



## Calavera Abecedario A Day of the Dead Alphabet Book

Día de los Muertos

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# BIOGRAPHY ORGANIZER

Who is this AMAZING human?



Draw a Picture



Full Name



Place of Birth



Birthday

## LIFE

Accomplishments

Lessons we can learn

## FUN FACTS

