

Sugar Skulls MEXICO



What are Sugar Skulls?

The Sugar Skulls tradition began in the 17th century to represent a departed soul during the Day of the Dead or Día de los Muertos. The holiday is a way to celebrate the memories of loved ones that are now gone through art, cooking, music, altars, and stories.



“Today was awesome! After these presentations and art projects the teachers on my team always talk about how wonderful they are. Thank you so much for bringing these to our students!”

–Sherry Sparks, 3rd Grade Teacher, Summit View Academy



MEXICO

the art of sugar skulls

Materials Needed:



Paper



Colored Pencils



Scissors

Materials Needed

- Scissors
- Colored Pencils, Markers, or crayons
- Paper (different colors for creativity)
- Sugar Skull Template
 - These can be printed or drawn on the paper

Tips

- Be creative
 - Use glitter, flowers from your backyard or anything else you can find in your house
- Fold your skull in half so you can create true symmetry
- Have fun!

Directions

- Draw your skull eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Eyes = Oval
 - Nose = Upside down heart
- Draw symmetrical shapes and designs.
- Color in shapes and designs with markers.
- Cut out your skull.

More about Sugar Skulls!

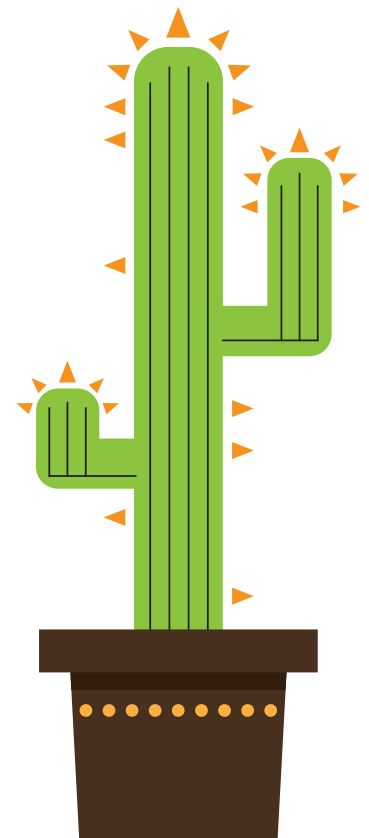
Decorative skulls usually made by hand from either sugar or clay. To celebrate the life of a loved one, during November 1 and 2, all corners of Mexico unite to honor the dead by creating colorful skulls.

Sugar skulls represented a departed soul, had the name written on the forehead and was placed on the home or gravestone to honor the return of a spirit.

What is the Day of the Dead?

Day of the Dead (Dia De Los Muertos) is a two day holiday that reunites the living and dead. Families create ofrendas (offerings) to honor their departed family members that have passed. These altars are decorated with bright yellow marigold flowers, photos of the departed, and the favorite foods and drinks of the one being honored. The offerings are believed to encourage visits from the land of the dead as the departed souls hear their prayers, smell their foods and join in the celebrations!

Day of the Dead is a rare holiday for celebrating death and life. It is unlike any holiday where mourning is exchanged for celebration.





Support Local Businesses and Restaurants

Expand your palate & learn about ways to engage with other international organizations.

- [Tortilleria Garcia](#) | 513-671-8678 | Springdale, OH
- [Mazunte Taqueria](#) | 513-785-0000 | Madisonville, OH
- [El Rio Grande](#) | 859-525-8222 | Florence, KY
- [La Mexicana Restaurant](#) | 859-261-6112 | Newport, KY
- [Cincinnati Baila Dance Academy](#) | 513-728-1765 | Sharonville, OH
- [Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#) | 513-979-6999 | Hyde Park, OH

For even more options visit our [Culture Guides](#) at [GlobalCincinnati.org](#).

Educational Resources & Materials

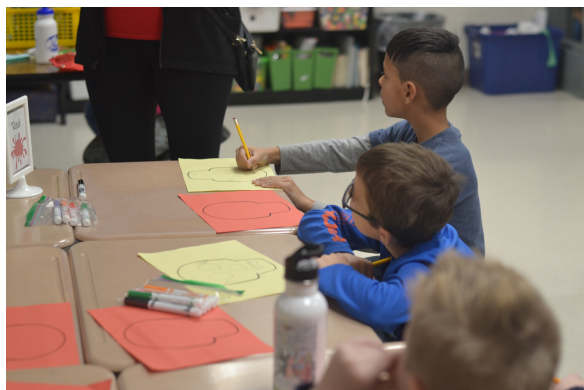
Learn even more about Mexico, explore the world from your home.

- [Day of the Dead](#) - The Holiday
- [Mexico Facts](#) - National Geographic Kids
- [Mexico: Animals | Are We There Yet?](#) - National Geographic Kids
- [What is Day of the Dead?](#) - National Geographic
- [Top 10 things to know about the Day of the Dead](#) - National Geographic

Having fun?

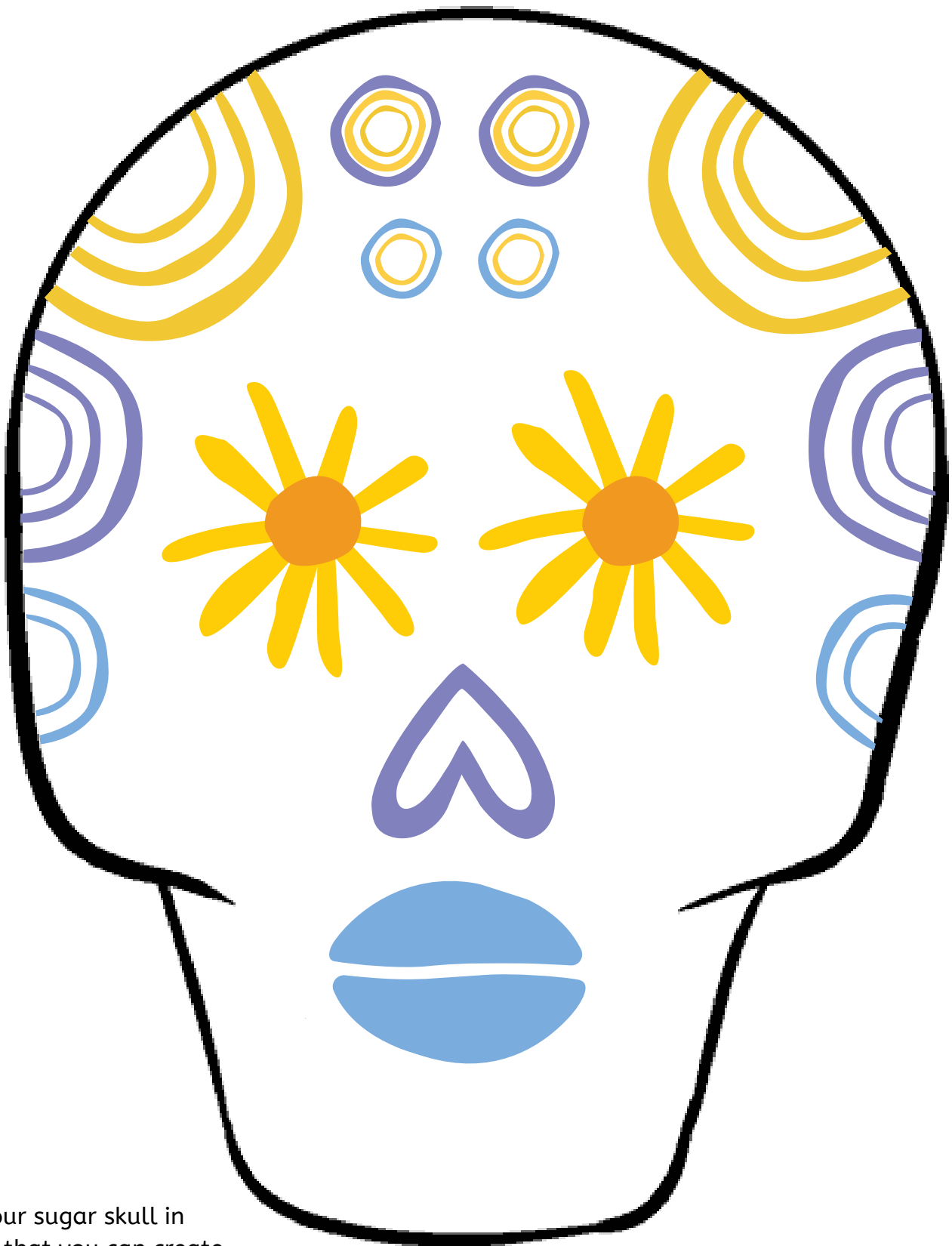
Send us pictures of you creating and/or your final art pieces! We would love to feature your work on our social media! Email your pictures to hgerth@cincyworldaffairs.org!

Give us your feedback with this quick survey: [Art Meets World @ Home](#).



Sugar Skull Example

No printer? Take a sheet of paper to the screen and trace the lines with a pencil.



Tip!

Fold your sugar skull in half so that you can create symmetrical shapes on the other side easily!

Sugar Skull Template

No printer? Take a sheet of paper to the screen and trace the lines with a pencil.

