

Traditions and celebrations are important to every culture

AN IMPORTANT WORD TO KNOW:

TRADITION: a belief or custom handed down from one generation to another

Tradition is important in Oaxaca. Kids learn about their history and culture in school, at home, and in community celebrations and events. Most Mexicans are Catholic so many traditions are related to religion. Let's learn about these traditions in pictures, video, through cultural artifacts, and in the words of kids themselves. Then let's think about traditions and celebrations that matter to us.

As you watch the Parades video, think of the parades you have seen or participated in within your community.



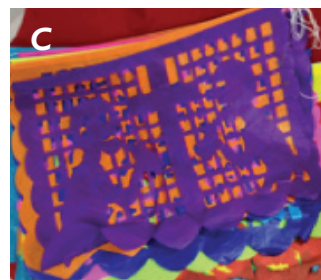
Watch the Parades video (password: **corn**): <https://vimeo.com/256651894>

What cultural traditions are being celebrated in this parade?

What are some of the reasons parades are held in the United States?

What are some traditions you see in this parade that you have seen in our parades?

You can see many cultural artifacts from Oaxaca in this video. Here are 4. Select 2 artifacts you saw and explain what tradition is associated with it?



What did you find most interesting about these traditions?

Here is one holiday young people in Oaxaca love.



“My favorite holiday or tradition is Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) because in my town we all make an altar for those in our family who have passed. It has the best food. My father’s great-grandmother would cook chocolate atole (a corn drink). We eat mole and rice and also give the deceased rice with mole, chicken broth or their favorite food.”

Luna



Day of the Dead Artifacts
Catrina (right) and her companion. Skeleton artifact are often placed on altars for Día de los Muertos

Traditions and holidays are important in the United States, too. Pick one of these holidays and explain why it is celebrated.

Independence Day

Presidents Weekend

Thanksgiving

What holiday is your favorite? How does your family celebrate it?



Watch this 360-degree video exploring churches in Oaxaca.
Be sure to move your cursor, phone, or tablet around to see everything!
(password: **corn**): <https://vimeo.com/454889099>

Cultural Scavenger Hunt

Traditions are important in every culture. In Lesson 4 you are introduced to several important Oaxacan traditions. Look around your home.

Find and identify an object that represents a tradition your family practices. It can be an everyday tradition, a religious tradition, or a holiday.

Name the object: _____

Explore the object. Use your senses of sight, touch, sound, smell or taste to discover how the object can have a similar purpose but look, feel, smell or taste different.

What do you observe? _____

Explain 3 ways the object has a similar purpose but appears to be different.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Don't forget! Before selecting your object, check with an adult to be sure your object is **SAFE** and **APPROPRIATE** to use.

I finished this lesson!

***Want to know more about the holidays the kids of Oaxaca celebrate?
Go to the [Extended Activities](#) page where you find videos and activities.***