

# THE DAY OF THE DEAD DANCING HUSKY DOG

**Developed by:**

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**Discipline / Subject:**

Language Arts, Math

**Topic:**

Reading Informational Text and Symmetry

**Grade Level:**

4<sup>th</sup> grade

**Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:**

Day of the Dead Activity Book by Karl Jones or other books about the holiday

Art supplies; tissue paper, markers, white paper, black butcher paper, glue, scissors, etc.

**Lesson Summary:**

Students will learn about Dia de Los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, and create a dancing sugar skull husky dog skeleton. The rib cage of the husky dog will be created by the student's name on a symmetrical fold

## **Standards Addressed:**

### **Common Core State Standards - CCSS**

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.3

Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.5

Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.7

Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.

CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.G.A.3

Recognize a line of symmetry for a two-dimensional figure as a line across the figure such that the figure can be folded along the line into matching parts. Identify line-symmetric figures and draw lines of symmetry.

### **Texas State Standards – TEKS**

11. Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

- . (A) Summarize the main idea and supporting details in text in ways that maintain meaning;
- . (B) Distinguish fact from opinion in a text and explain how to verify what is a fact;
- . (D) Use multiple text features (e.g., guidewords, topic and concluding sentences) to gain an overview of the contents of text and to locate information.

- 6. (B) identify and draw one or more lines of symmetry, if they exist, for a two-dimensional figure

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Students will learn about the Day of the Dead holiday
2. Students will create a husky dog sugar skull skeleton using templates and their symmetrical name as the rib cage
3. Students will decorate the husky dog's head like a traditional sugar skull

**Assessment:**

1. The student's name should be symmetrical by folding the paper in half forming a line of congruence on the fold

**Procedural Activities**

1. Research the Day of the Dead using various books such as Day of the Dead Activity Book by Karl Jones.
2. Research what sugar skulls look like from books or online.
3. Use tissue paper and art supplies to decorate the husky dog sugar skulls. Remember that the white part resembles the "sugar".
4. In math review symmetry
5. Take a sheet of paper, preferably larger than 8 ½ X 11 and fold it in half the long way.
6. Using a pencil, students should write their names in large block letters.
7. Go over it in black marker as an option.
8. Using scissors cut out the name, still holding it in half, making a symmetrical name when opened.
9. Color and decorate the ears
10. Cut out the other template pieces and keep them white for bones. The symmetrical name is the rib cage.
11. Lay out the pieces on black butcher paper and glue them down.
12. It is fine if the dog sugar skeleton looks like it is dancing!
13. Cut out the dogs with a little border and put on display.

**Materials Students Need:**

Day of the Dead Activity Book by Karl Jones

Art supplies; tissue paper, markers, white paper, black butcher paper, glue, scissors, etc.

**Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:**

Computer or tablet

Optional: view web sites and images online of the Day of the Dead and sugar skull creations for inspiration

**Other Information:**

Using the site: [www.photosforclass.com](http://www.photosforclass.com) provides students will copyright free images of the Iditarod, Day of the Dead sugar skulls, or any other topic for research

**Modifications for Special Learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:****Modified:**

Draw out the student's name symmetrically with them, and then let them cut it out

**Enrichment:**

Have students teach other students about the Day of the Dead

Create a class altar by following the book, and put the Spanish translations of the terms on the altar

Have tours of the altar for other classes

**Additional Information – optional:**

Create a Day of the Dead art gallery by displaying your husky dogs on the walls of your school or classroom