

Shining Sun/Moon Ornament

Objective: Students will learn about Mexican Folk Art and create a version of sculpted metal art.

Topics & Keywords for Discussion:

oxidize- a chemical reaction of the metal surface with the oxygen present in the air that causes some of the metal to corrode

Materials: markers, paper plates, aluminum foil, sparkles, glitter, hot glue (as needed).



Opening Activity: Teach students about hojalata: Mexican Tin Art! One of the least known, most versatile, and most beautiful expressions of Mexican folk art is hojalata (tin art work), also known in some parts of Mexico as, lamina or lata. Since the 1500's, this humble metal has been made more pleasing by being shaped, stamped, punched, painted and cut into a wide variety of decorative and functional artwork.

One reason it's popular as a material for folk art is that it is very light, it's strong and it's inexpensive. Learn more about Mexican Folk Art HERE: <https://youtu.be/oy3aaF4S3Ek>

Core Activity: Distribute large squares of aluminum foil to students with markers. Also distribute paper plates. Have students trace plate with marker on foil & draw unique sun or moon face. When dry, wrap the paper plates with the foil drawings. They can also apply glitter or other elements to lively up their art: please apply sparkle elements or glitter using hot glue or other liquid glue.

Reflection: As students help clean up the markers, ask them why they chose to create a sun or a moon, or both. Also, did they like this activity? How would they change their drawing if they were to create it again?