

Paper Fiesta Flowers

Objective: Students will learn about cultural arts for Hispanic Heritage Month and create a vibrant string of flowers in the style of Mexican festive décor.

Topics & Keywords for Discussion:

fiesta: of Spanish origin, an event marked by festivities or celebration. Also a public celebration in Spain or Latin America, especially one on a religious holiday, with different types of entertainment and activities.

Materials: scissors, string, pipe cleaners or wire, multicolored crepe paper/tissue paper.

Opening Activity: First have students sit down and close their eyes. Have them remember a great party that they had, and remember who was there, what happened at that party. Then, have them open their eyes and call on students one at a time, ask them to describe their favorite holiday or celebration. Who celebrated with them? What activities took place? Was there CAKE? What kind of CAKE? What were the decorations like? Tell students that they will be helping decorate the room as a fiesta for Hispanic Heritage month. Learn along with this video:

<https://youtu.be/FDL7zPBeNMI>

Core Activity: BEFORE students arrive, take some time to CUT the crepe/tissue paper in half and maybe in half again, or roughly to the size you need to make sure you have enough paper for students. Students should pick 1 color, and you give them 4 sheets that are the same length. SHOW STUDENTS how to FOLD the paper sheets, all together, fan/accordion style: 1.5 inches of paper in between each fold. Show students how to wrap wire or a pipe cleaner around the middle. Don't tie it so tightly that you crush the paper too much: it should now look like a bow tie. Use the scissors to cut tiny strips or triangles on the ends of the bow tie. Spread out the fan folds, and carefully separate each layer. Fluff and adjust as needed on each side so it is round in shape. Spread out a long piece of string and have students come up one or two at a time to attach their flower to the string: use the wire wrapped around the middle to tie it to the string.

Reflection: As students help clean up the space, ask them why they think celebrating Hispanic culture is important.

