

Hispanic Heritage Letter Ladder

Use a letter of the alphabet to complete the words or phrases and build the letter ladder below.
Use each letter only once.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CESAR CHA _ EZ

ME _ ICO

PI _ ATA

_ ALSA

CUB _

S _ ANISH

S _ ELETON

TA _ O

LA _ INO

CINC _ DE MAYO

_ UETZALCOATL

JENN _ FER LOPEZ

SAMM _ SOSA

BRA _ IL

MA _ IACHI

AMI _ O

MIGRANT _ ORKER

_ ARRIO

P _ ERTO RICO

_ OLA

_ IDEL CASTRO

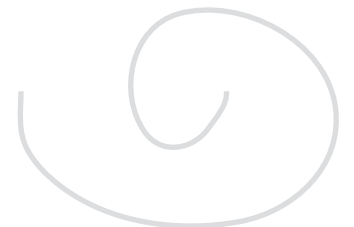
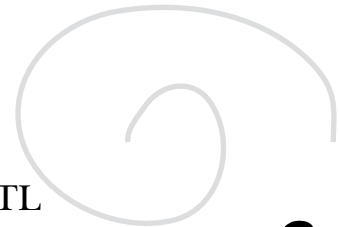
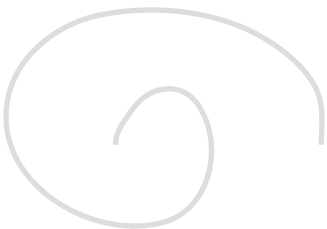
CAR _ OS SANTANA

_ NCHILADAS

EL SALVA _ OR

DO _ INICAN REPUBLIC

TE _ ANO



Hispanic Heritage Letter Ladder

Answer Key

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CESAR CHA VEZ

ME XICO

PI NATA

SALSA

CUBA

SPANISH

SKELETON

TA CO

LA TINO

CINCO DE MAYO

QUETZALCOATL

JENNI FER LOPEZ

SAMMYY SOSA

BRA ZIL

MA RIACHI

AMIGO

MIGRANT WORKER

BARRIO

PUERTO RICO

HOLA

FIDEL CASTRO

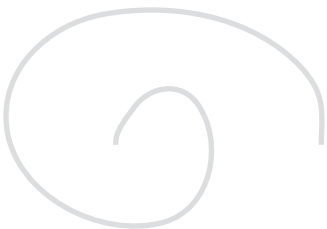
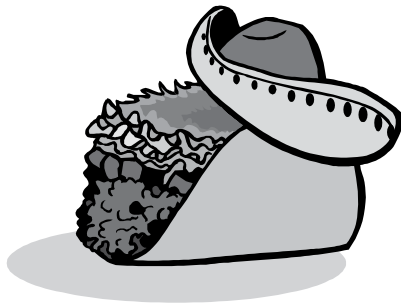
CARLOS SANTANA

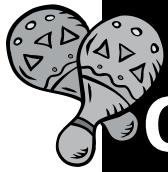
ENCHILADAS

EL SALVADOR

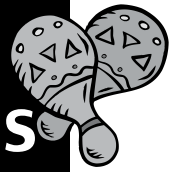
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

TE JANO





Web Scavenger Hunt: Holidays Celebrated By Hispanic Americans



Learn about Hispanic cultural holidays. Use the Web sites below to find information and complete the worksheet. You may use keyword searches on specific holidays.

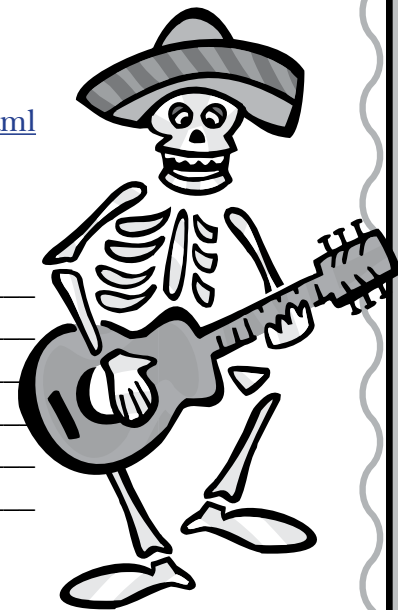
Use the back if you run out of space.

Web sites:

- Celebrating Hispanic Heritage! www.biography.com/hispanic-heritage/index.jsp
- Mexico for Kids, www.elbalero.gob.mx/kids/about/html/holidays/home.html
- Fact Monster Hispanic National Holidays, www.factmonster.com/spot/hhmholidays1.html
- KidzWorld Hispanic Culture and Traditions, www.kidzworld.com/article/4973-hispanic-culture-and-traditions
- Hispanic Fiestas, <http://holidays.mrdonn.org/hispanic.html>
- Hispanic Culture Online (holidays): <http://holidays.mrdonn.org/hispanic.html>

1. List as many traditional holidays as you can find that are celebrated by many or all Hispanic Americans.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



2. Choose one holiday and learn more about it. Answer these questions.

- Write the name and date(s) of the holiday _____

- Hispanic Americans from which countries observe this holiday?

- What is the holiday about—does it celebrate a religious tradition, historic event, specific national or cultural heritage, or something else?

- How do people observe this holiday? What events, activities, foods, colors, decorations... are part of a traditional observance?

Life in The Barrio Discussion/ Creative Writing Resource Sheet

Any Small Goodness and *The Music Thief* portray life in poor Hispanic American neighborhoods. Assign half the class to read each book. Then use this sheet to explore the books in discussion and creative writing.

1. Discuss what life is like for Alma and Arturo, using these prompts:
 - Talk about their experiences with poverty, jobs, education levels, educational opportunities, gangs, violence.
 - Discuss family life; compare/contrast the families in the two books.
 - What opportunities do the protagonists and their friends have? What obstacles stand in their way?
 - What might the protagonists do to improve conditions for themselves and their families?
 - What might the government do?
 - What might concerned, economically successful Americans do?
2. Have students project ten years into the future and imagine what the protagonist in their book is doing; what his or her life is like. Each student will write a two-to-three page letter, in the voice of that character, to a fictional friend or classmate from “the old days” describing his or her life and what’s happened in the years in between. Invite authors of the most interesting, insightful, or creative letters to read them aloud.

Extension: Do you have access to someone who lives or has lived in a neighborhood like one of these and has overcome similar obstacles to build a more prosperous, hope-filled life? Invite that person to read the two books and visit the class. Ask him or her to share thoughts on how realistically the books portray barrio life.

