



Mexico: Cinco de Mayo

Pre-visit Activity: Background Reading

Mexico is the country that is south of the United States. Mexico and Texas share a border along the Rio Grande River. Because we are neighbors, some of our culture is the same. Culture is the way of life for a group of people. The way people celebrate holidays is one example of culture.

One special celebration in Mexico is called Cinco de Mayo. Those words mean Fifth of May. Cinco de Mayo is a celebration to help people remember something that happened long ago in Mexico. A large and powerful army from a different country invaded and tried take over Mexico, but the people living in a small town called Puebla stopped the big army. The people of Puebla had a parade and parties to show how happy they were that they had stopped the big army. All of this happened on the Fifth of May.

Because Mexico is close to the United States, Cinco de Mayo is also celebrated in Texas. There are many ways to celebrate, but usually people have parties and dance the Mexican Hat Dance. They use maracas to make music. People also decorate with colorful flowers because Mexico has many beautiful flowers.



shutterstock - 229218373

Source: <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/no-cinco-de-mayo-not-mexican-independence-day-here-s-n567041>



Mexico: Cinco de Mayo

Pre-visit Activity: Background Reading Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions about Cinco de Mayo:

1. The country that shares a border with Texas is _____.
2. Culture is the way of _____ for a group of people.
3. The way people _____ holidays is one example of culture.
4. One celebration that started in Mexico is _____ de _____.
5. Cinco de Mayo means _____.

Draw a picture that shows how people celebrate Cinco de Mayo





Mexico: Cinco de Mayo

Pre-Visit Activity: Background Reading **KEY**

Answer the questions about Cinco de Mayo:

1. The country that shares a border with Texas is **Mexico**.
2. Culture is the way of **life** for a group of people.
3. The way people **celebrate** holidays is one example of culture.
4. One celebration that started in Mexico is **Cinco de Mayo**.
5. Cinco de Mayo means **fifth of May**.

Draw a picture that shows how people celebrate Cinco de Mayo

