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Dia De Los Muertos



Synopsis

It's Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) and children throughout the pueblo, or town, are getting ready to celebrate! They decorate with colored streamers, calaveras, or sugar skulls, and pan de muertos, or bread of the dead. There are altars draped in cloth and covered in marigolds and twinkling candles. Music fills the streets. Join the fun and festivities, learn about a different cultural tradition, and brush up on your Spanish vocabulary, as the town honors their dearly departed in a traditional, time-honored style.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD970L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Albert Whitman & Company (September 1, 2015)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 0.5 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #74,099 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico #23 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Religious #86 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

I first experienced Dia de los Muertos at Hollywood Forever last year. I left impressed with the love, tenderness and humor with which people reflected on their loved ones passed. I've been looking forward to experiencing the holiday--in this small way--again this year. I was thrilled when I saw this book at the bookstore a couple weeks ago. I bought it after reading one page, thinking I'd be happy to share it with my kids if it were reasonably thoughtful and entertaining. I'd like my kids to know a little more about the holiday and see how it fits into life throughout the year; finding something geared more toward them thrilled me, whether it was a mediocre read or a purely delightful one! It was nowhere near a mediocre read. I loved it on my first read, and more on my second. I love how it

explains the holiday so accessibly, and with such beautiful pictures. My toddler, who ignores most books (favoring reading the same four over and over), was captivated by the lovely illustrations. I've read this book to my kids every day since we brought it home, and plan on continuing to read it. It's so loving, so affirming, in its explanation, and concludes so sweetly I can't help but smile. This was all the more so when my older child (almost six) asked me what it meant, opening up a lovely discussion. I've only had this book for two weeks, but I imagine I'll feel every bit as enamored of it in a year, two years, or ten.

A catchy rhyme interspersed with Spanish words teaches children about the Dia de Los Muertos and its traditions. I can quite easily see little ones wanting this read repeatedly, since the rhythm of the verse is so catchy. The artwork is simple almost entirely flat shapes and colors, but there are so many tiny details that you'll forget that everything is so simplistic. It's a nice style, which I haven't seen in any Spanish-language children's books as of yet. The only complaint I have about this book is that some of the Spanish vocabulary isn't immediately obvious. Yes, there's a glossary of Spanish terms at the end, but you won't want to leaf back and forth while reading, and kids are unlikely to want to read just a glossary after the rest of the book. So I'd say look up the terms before reading this to your kids so you can explain the few words which they might not understand. Don't feel the need to run out and buy this without trying it from your local library, first, but feel free to give it a shot!

I just read this book to my 7th graders today and they loved it; I teach Spanish and we are studying The Day of the Dead. The rhyme scheme is perfect and there are just the right amount of Spanish words thrown in. The illustrations are stunning. My only gripe? The word "celebraciones" does NOT have an accent on it!

Love this book, even though I'm not good at spanish.

Excellent.

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