



Country of Origin: Puerto Rico

Vejigante –Masks of Puerto Rico

2023

Vejigante – Masks of Puerto Rico Recommended Grades 5th - College

In the Caribbean country of Puerto Rico, it's festival time and *aghh!* What is that masked creature!? The Vejigante both fascinates and frightens young children with his mischievous antics, especially during festivals in Ponce and Loiza. This workshop explores the culture of Puerto Rico's vibrant and rhythmic festivals, the history of the Vejigante and Puerto Rico's relationship to the United States. Students will create the horned mask of the mysterious and charismatic Vejigante, as they listen to the sounds of Bomba music.

Colorado Standards: Social Studies, Visual Arts, Language Arts

Objectives: Students will be introduced to the island of Puerto Rico, a commonwealth of the USA. They will learn about the history and cultural significance of the Vejigante and how it stems from centuries of cultural mixing.

Exit Ticket/Deliverable: Students will leave the workshop with a better understanding of who their family is and what makes them unique. Students will have a basic comprehension of how images can tell a story and how we can break down art to understand its meaning without having words to guide us. They will also have a basic understanding of how images are viewed from our unique perspectives, cultural backgrounds and history. circles and will be able to recognize this math theory in the world around them.

Art Component: Students will make their own Vejigante mask using a paper plate and pre-cut horns and teeth. They will have the chance to decorate it as they wish.

Vocabulary: culture, diaspora, history, illustration, observation, perspective, tradition

Vejigante – Masks of Puerto Rico Vocabulary Descriptions

Autonomous - (adj) (of a country or region) having the freedom to govern itself or control its own affairs

Culture - (n) The customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.

Diaspora-(n) the dispersal of any people from their original homeland

Heritage – (n) Valued objects and qualities such as cultural traditions, unspoiled countryside, and historic buildings that have been passed down from previous generations.

History- (n) The study of past events, particularly in human affairs. the whole series of past events connected with someone or something.

Moors- (n) Muslim inhabitants of the Mahgreb, the Iberian Peninsula, Sicily, and Malta during the Middle Ages.

Observation- The action or process of observing something or someone carefully or in order to gain information. the ability to notice things, especially significant details.

Perspective – (n) a particular attitude toward or way of regarding something; a point of view.

Tradition – (n) The transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation, or the fact of being passed on in this way. a long-established custom or belief that has been passed on from one generation to another.

