

**Overview:** In this unit, students learn about the country of Mexico. In this context, they also learn different cultural traditions, birthday parties, celebrations in the community, as well as customs and traditions.

**Essential Questions:**

- How is a fifteenth birthday celebrated in Mexico? (Week 1)
- What celebrations are there in the community and when do they take place? (Week 2)
- What are some of the national holidays and what are they like? (Week 3)
- What are some of Mexico's customs and traditions? (Week 4)

**Enduring Understandings:**

- Mexico is a country where Spanish is spoken.
- Celebrations are an important part of the culture of Mexico.
- Different places have different traditions.

**CURRICULUM STANDARDS / STUDENT OUTCOMES**

**Communication**

**1.1 Interpersonal - Students will:**

- Ask and answer questions about birthdays and celebrations.
- Discuss parties celebrated in communities.
- Ask and answer questions about coming of age parties (Fifteenth birthday in Mexico)
- Ask and answer questions about what people do at a celebration.

**1.2 Interpretive Reading and Listening - Students will:**

- Predict based on the cover, title and illustrations.
- Ask and respond to questions about text read aloud.
- Recognize the author's purpose in a story.
- Analyze invitations.
- Identify singular and plural forms of nouns.
- Recognize homophones and decode them in context.

**1.3 Presentational Speaking and Writing - Students will:**

- Describe a birthday celebration.
- Describe a community celebration.
- Present information about customs and traditions.
- Use accents appropriately.
- Use proper capitalization and punctuation to create sentences.

**Culture**

**2.1 Practices and Perspectives - Students will:**

- Examine the importance of community celebrations in Mexico.

**2.2 Products and Perspectives** - Students will:

- Identify party materials and food.
- Create papel picado.

**Connections**

**3.1 Cross-curricular** - Students will:

- Examine the significance of celebrations in different cultures.
- Identify the author's purpose in a story.
- Identify the past, present and future tenses of a verb.
- Utilize accents appropriately.

**3.2 Target Culture** - Students will:

- Examine the importance of a fifteenth birthday in Mexico.

**Comparisons**

**4.1 Language** - Students will:

- Compare and contrast proper capitalization and punctuation to create sentences.
- Compare and contrast the use of accents.
- Identify the past, present and future verbs.

**4.2 Culture** - Students will:

- Compare celebrations in Mexico with their own.

**Communities**

**5.1 Beyond the School** - Students will:

- Participate in simulations that replicate authentic conversations about celebrations and traditions in Mexico with their own.

**5.2 Lifelong Learner** - Students will:

- Utilize media to explore traditions and customs in Mexico.

## FUNCTIONS • VOCABULARY • STRUCTURES

LANGUAGE FUNCTION	CONTENT VOCABULARY	LANGUAGE STRUCTURE
Identify and describe coming of age celebrations in Mexico.	Celebrations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• quinceañera</li> <li>• chambelán/chambelanes</li> <li>• desfile</li> <li>• muñeca</li> <li>• quince años</li> <li>• tácon alto</li> </ul> Numbers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• catorce</li> <li>• quince</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ¿Con quién vas a celebrar?</li> <li>• Voy a celebrar una fiesta con (persona).</li> <li>• ¿Cómo se celebran los quince años?</li> <li>• (Celebrations).</li> </ul>
Talk about parties and celebrations.	Party Words: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ceremonia</li> <li>• costumbre</li> <li>• evento</li> <li>• joven</li> <li>• mujer</li> <li>• tradición/tradiciones</li> <li>• vida</li> <li>• menor</li> <li>• pastel</li> <li>• flores</li> <li>• decoraciones</li> <li>• comida</li> </ul> Verbs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• disfrutar</li> <li>• festejar</li> <li>• bailar</li> <li>• cantar</li> <li>• comer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ¿Qué harás en la fiesta?</li> <li>• Yo haré (party words).</li> <li>• Yo (verbs).</li> <li>• ¿Qué comerás?</li> <li>• Yo comeré pastel.</li> <li>• ¿A qué música bailarás?</li> <li>• Yo bailaré a (music).</li> <li>• ¿Cuáles son las celebraciones más importantes en tu vida?</li> <li>• ¿Para la familia?</li> <li>• (Celebration).</li> <li>• ¿Cómo será la ceremonia?</li> <li>• Será (description).</li> </ul>
Talk about community celebrations.	Party Words: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• festival</li> <li>• mariachi</li> <li>• serenata</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ¿Cuáles son algunas partes de una celebración en México?</li> <li>• (Party words).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● especial</li> <li>● regalo</li> <li>● espectáculo</li> <li>● sociedad</li> </ul> <p>Verbs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● recordar</li> </ul>	
Discuss when celebrations take place.	<p>Time Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Primer</li> <li>● Segundo</li> <li>● Tercer</li> <li>● Último</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ¿Qué celebraciones hay en la comunidad y cuándo son?</li> <li>● (Celebrations).</li> </ul>
Compare ways Mexicans and Americans celebrate their Independence Days.	<p>Independence Day Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● bandera</li> <li>● himno nacional</li> <li>● independencia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ¿Cómo se celebran el día de independencia en los EEUU?</li> <li>● ¿Cómo se celebran el día de independencia en Mexico?</li> </ul>
Discuss how Mexicans celebrate Flag Day.	<p>Flag Day Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● amor</li> <li>● orgullo</li> <li>● símbolo</li> <li>● feriado</li> <li>● histórico</li> <li>● saludo a la bandera</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ¿Cómo se celebran el día de la bandera en México?</li> </ul>
Discuss some unique Mexican traditions.	<p>Traditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● alebrije</li> <li>● anuncio</li> <li>● artesanía</li> <li>● papel picado</li> <li>● precio</li> <li>● tamaño</li> <li>● colorido</li> <li>● fantástico</li> <li>● tradicional</li> <li>● artesano</li> <li>● indígena</li> </ul> <p>Verbs:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ¿Cuáles son algunas de las costumbres y tradiciones de México?</li> <li>● (Traditions).</li> <li>● ¿Qué tradiciones te gustan más?</li> <li>● Me gustan (traditions).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• decorar</li><li>• aprender</li><li>• celebrar</li><li>• ir</li></ul>	
Discuss some traditional food dishes found at Mexican parties.	Food: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• carnitas</li><li>• taco</li><li>• salsa</li><li>• tortillas</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ¿Qué comida prefieres?</li><li>• Prefiero (food).</li><li>• ¿Cuál es la comida tradicional durante una fiesta Mexicana?</li><li>• (Food).</li></ul>