

Día de los Muertos Word Search

Read the information below. Find the bold words in the letter grid!



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

The Mexican **holiday** of **Día de los Muertos**, or Day of the **Dead**, takes place during the first two days of **November**. While the holiday's observances include spending time in **cemeteries**, making shrines to the dead, and displaying skull and skeleton decorations, the occasion is **joyful**, rather than scary. Death isn't seen as the end of one's life, but as a natural part of the life cycle. During Día de los Muertos, it is said that the spirits of the dead come back to visit the living.

First those who died as babies come home, then the older children, and finally those who died as adults. Families set up altars or **ofrendas** in their homes. They decorate them festively with bright colors and have photographs, things that the dead people enjoyed, and items representing the four elements: **fire** (candles), **water** (drinks), **earth** (fruit), and **wind** (fluttering tissue-paper decorations.) In some areas, families go to the **graveyard** to celebrate through the night.

Decorating with happy and cheerful **calaveras** (skulls) and **calacas** (**skeletons**) and eating **pan de muerto** (bread of the dead, made in honor of the holiday) is part of the Día de los Muertos celebration. Sugar coated **skull** and skeleton candy are also a Day of the Dead treat.