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Trade Book Sheet

Title of book: The Night of Las Posadas

Author's name: Tomie DePaola

Publisher: G. P. Putnam's Sons

Copyright year: 1999

Reading level: AD410L Grade 2

Genre: Multicultural

Synopsis of story: This is the story of how a Christmas celebration is done in Sante Fe, New Mexico. Las Posadas is the processional of Maria and Jose trying to find a place to rest and for her to have her baby. There is a snowstorm the night of this celebration and the couple who is to play Maria and Jose are stuck in the snow and can't get to town. Another couple shows up and is able to take their place. The other couple looks just like the carved statues of Maria and Jose in the little church.

Standard: 3.5.2 Identify connections that the local community has with other communities, including cultural exchanges of several types, and ways that technology links communities in other places.

Activity: Community Brochures Adapted from a lesson by Karin Otto @ <http://www.lessonplanspage.com/printables/PSSCommunityBrochures23.htm>

Materials

- Pictures of Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Pictures of our home town
- Construction Paper
- Crayons, markers, colored pencils
- Glue
- Scissors
- Sample brochure that I made

Procedures

Discuss with the class how communities and cultures are sometimes very different yet the same in many ways also. Tell them they are going to make a brochure which compares our two communities. Point out examples of how the communities are the same. Fold the construction paper in thirds to make a brochure. Allow the students time to complete their projects. This can be done individually or in groups of 2.

Standard: 3.5.4 Examine factors that make the local community unique, including how the community is enriched through foods, crafts, customs, languages, music, visual arts, architecture, dance, and drama representing various cultures.

Activity: Cookies and Hot Chocolate

Materials

- Cookies
- Hot Chocolate
- Cups
- Napkins

Procedures

After we have read The Night of Las Posadas, we have studied our different cultures and made brochures to show how they are similar we will have cookies and hot chocolate which is common in both New Mexico and Indiana.