

Young Audiences'
KULTURE KIDS

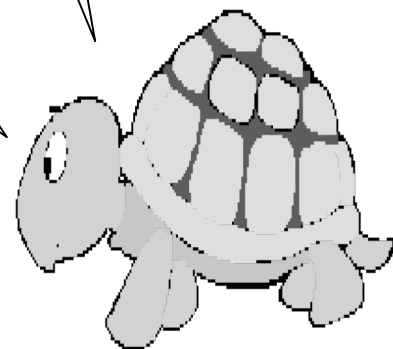
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REMEMBER
TO BE NICE:

Recuerdo

Ser Simpatico

The Talkative Turtle



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TITLE & DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM YOU WILL SEE:

REMEMBER TO BE NICE - RECUERDO SER SIMPATICO

Do your students forget to be nice to each other? A mean turtle learns the value of friendship and remembers to be nice while students participate in Spanish language, song and learn about animals and places in Costa Rica. Ages 3-11. Great for families!

WHAT THE CHILDREN WILL EXPLORE:

Basic Human Values told from a cultural perspective
Importance of listening and friendship
Central American culture, language, dress
Communication Skills
Problem Solving
Similarities of different cultures
Information about different animals
Imagination

SOME CONNECTIONS TEACHERS CAN MAKE TO CURRICULUM:

Geography-Central America
Social Studies-Latino culture
Social Skills-Listening, Friendship, Participating
Language Arts-Storytelling
Science-Animal Biology
Music-Singing to finalize message

ARTIST NEEDS

We will need at least a 12' x 15' ft. space with a small center aisle, a private place for the artist to change into costume, a small table or kindergarten desk, a chair, someone to help with the un/loading of supplies, a flat bed rolling cart and an electric outlet.

TEACHER INVOLVEMENT

Participating in the program just as students do when asked by the artist (teachers will play the role of the pigs)
Responsible for discipline and classroom management
Sit interspersed with the students not at the back of the room
Enjoy the show
Feedback after the presentation
Questions are encouraged by the artist, if time permits

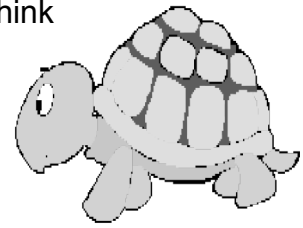
BEFORE THE PROGRAM

Discuss with students:
"Willing suspension of disbelief"
Theatre etiquette
Imagination
Participation when asked, quiet when not

WHAT SHOULD THE TEACHERS DO AFTER THE PROGRAM?

Further Discussion on *TALKATIVE TURTLE*:

1. Why do you think the turtle was always boasting? Why do people boast? Is it good or bad to boast? Why?
2. Why did the other animals stop speaking to turtle? Do you think once Turtle learned his lesson, they forgave him? Why do people get angry with each other? Do they often stay angry or get over it? Why? How do you feel when you are mad at someone? How do you feel when someone is mad at you? What do you do to solve your differences?
3. Why did turtle say mean things to the other animals? Is it all right to say mean things to others even if the things are true? Why or why not? Is it OK to call others names? Why or why not? How do you feel when someone says mean things about you or calls you names? What should you do when that happens?
4. What would you do if your friend has bad breath? Tell him to keep his mouth shut, like turtle did, or find some other way to let him know?
5. At the end of the tale, turtle never says a word. Was that right for him to stop talking altogether after what happened?



PROVERBS

are short, well-known sayings that usually express a truth that everyone knows and offers advice. Here are some Spanish proverbs and their translations.

En boca cerrada no entran moscas.
In a closed mouth, flies do not enter.

Es mejor callar porque el hablar trae problemas.
It is best to be silent, because talking can get you into trouble.

Tendre que tener mas cuidado con lo que digo.
I'll be more careful about what I say.

Hay que pensar bien lo que uno va a decir antes de hablar.
A person should think before he speaks.

Cuando una persona habla mucho es para ocultar su ignorancia.
When someone talks as much as he does, it's because he's trying to hide his own ignorance.

Las personas que tienen conocimientos de verdad, los comparten sin hacer alarde de saber mucho.
People who really know something, share what they know without making so much noise.

Do we have any similar American proverbs?



BASIC FACTS ON CENTRAL AMERICA

Central America is located in the southern part of North America, attached by the Isthmus of Panama to South America. Central America is made up of seven countries: Costa Rica, Belize, Guatemala, Panama, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras. All these countries together are about twice the size of Colorado.

Except for Belize and Costa Rica, Central American countries have precarious governments and very low incomes for their people. The United States government has given financial and military aid to Central American governments. The USA has also, brought in their own military to deal with heated situations, believing that what happens in Central America directly affects the United States of America.

Central America has many attractions including active volcanoes, tropical rain forests, the barrier reef of Belize, the Panama Canal and beaches on the Caribbean coast. The most famous civilization of Central America was the Mayan Empire of almost two thousand years ago. In the 16th century, European explorers arrived looking for gold. Products from Central America include: timber, iron, copper, lead, tin, silver, shellfish, corn, beans, bananas, coffee, sugar, avocados, cattle, cotton, cut flowers, ornamental plants and some spices. It is believed that avocados, chocolate and corn originally came from Central America.

The major languages in Central America are Spanish, English and several Indigenous languages. The people of Central America are of descended from Indian, Black, Spanish, Chinese, American and other European ancestries.

FACTS FROM TALKATIVE TURTLE:

Turtle carries his house on this back. Turtles in Costa Rica can live on land and be aquatic. Sea Turtles can be found in September and October arriving on the beach to lay their 100 eggs and two months later baby turtles hatch and go out to the Pacific Ocean. Santa Rosa National Park is a major nesting site for turtles. Green turtles are an endangered species and Costa Rica has a program to save the turtles.

Temperature in Costa Rica averages between 72-90 degrees.

Costa Rica is about the size of New Hampshire and Vermont. It lays between Nicaragua and Panama, with the Caribbean Sea on one side the Pacific Ocean on the other. The people call themselves *ticos*, which comes from the word *hermanitos* meaning *little brothers*.

There are many different kinds of animals in Costa Rica.

100 different kinds of bats.

200 species of snakes.

160 species of amphibians.

218 species of reptiles.

130 kinds of freshwater fish.

Over 200 different kinds of mammals.



Over 850 species of birds including the scarlet macaw, laughing falcon, toucan, tanager, hummingbirds, orange parakeets, blue-footed booby and the bird revered by the Mayans - the rare, pigeon sized blue green feathered quetzal - often considered the world's most beautiful bird.

There are also cattle, skunks, sluttish, white-faced capuchin monkeys, green tree frogs, armadillos, giant anteaters, jacamars, harpy eagles, squirrel monkeys, crocodiles, wild pigs and many members of the cat family such as jaguar, the largest most powerful member, pumas, margay cat and ocelots.

Pigs DO keep their bodies cool by rolling in mud.
Green iguanas CAN grow to be 6 feet long.
Bats DO use sound waves to see with their ears.
Cows DO moo.
Vultures DO eat dead, rotten animals.



Chirripó Grande IS the highest mountain on Costa Rica.



There are 7 active volcanoes in Costa Rica. Over hundreds of years, these volcanoes left volcanic rock on Costa Rican land. This rock has enriched the soil and made the valley into good farmland (hence the name Costa Rica or Rich Coast). Hundreds of years of ocean waves pounding the rock have made the famous Costa Rican black sandy beaches.

The movie Jurassic Park was filmed on Isla del Coco which lies off the Coast of Costa Rica.

PLAY A GAME from COSTA RICA called EL GATO Y EL RATON or "The Cat and the Mouse"



6 or more players.

2 players selected to become el gato (cat) and el raton (mouse).
Remaining players form a large circle around el raton.

El gato stands OUTSIDE the circle.

The children chant: "*El gato quiere sacar el raton*" (the cat wants to get the mouse) (pronounced *L gat-toe key-air-ray sack-car L rat-tahn*).

When chant is finished, el gato tries to tag el raton while the children in the circle try to help el raton by holding hands or raising or lowering arms to prevent el gato from getting into the circle or allowing el raton to get out of the circle if el gato gets in or moving closer together...anything to help el raton NOT get tagged.

When el raton is tagged, a new gato y raton are chosen.

CRAFT

Poncho

Poncho is a military cloak or greatcoat. Ponchos originally come from ancient Central America. They are usually made of wool for warmth and practicality. They could be used as a blanket or a coat and were easy to roll up to carry on your saddle. They are simple to make. Directions follow.

Supplies:

Scissors,

Square piece of fabric or an old blanket measuring about 36" x 36" (larger if you are taller than 5' 2"),

Needle and Thread (to match material) only if sewing on fringe,

Sew fringe on edges of material

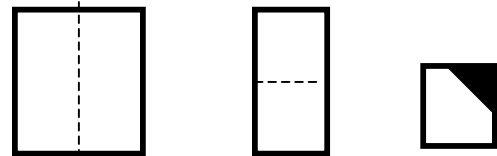
OR if material unravels, let that serve as fringe

OR, cut the ends to look like fringe.

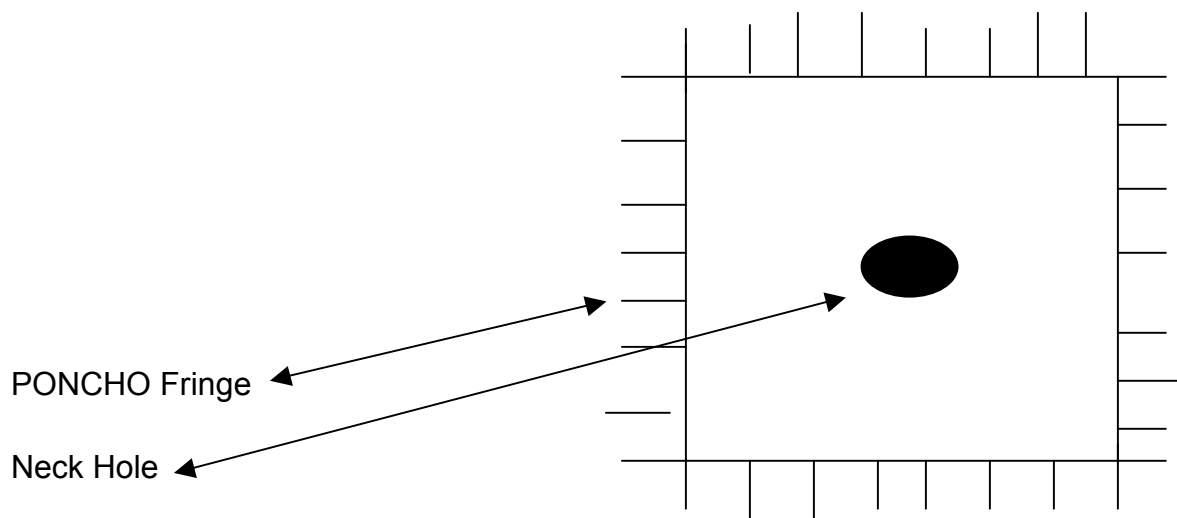
OR use POLAR FLEECE material, which cuts nicely and does not unravel, which is good for fringe).

Directions:

1. Fold square in half then fold in half again.



2. Cut a SMALL opening for your head and neck at the center on the fold of the square.
3. Open material and cut edges to form fringe (or sew fringe on edges).
4. Wear PONCHO with points hanging down at the center of your body.



MAKE AND EAT something from CENTRAL AMERICA

SPICED FRUIT PUNCH

Ingredients:

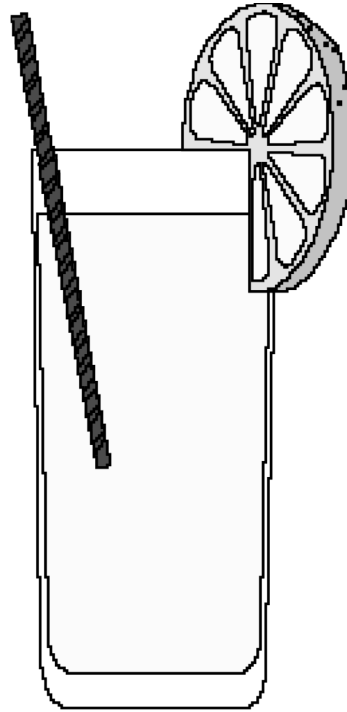
1-liter ginger ale (or 7-UP or Sprite)
Ice
1 1/4 cup ice cold water
1/2 cup lemon juice
1 1/4 cup pineapple juice
1/2 cup orange juice
2 tablespoons honey
1/2-teaspoon allspice (ground)
1 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon rind

Equipment:

Large punch or mixing bowl
Large mixing spoon

Directions:

Place all ingredients in bowl
Add ginger ale last
Mix together
Chill in the refrigerator



Serve with ice and enjoy!

NEW VOCABULARY

Spanish *Costa Rican* Expressions:

Costa Ricans are very polite people. Manners are very important to them. Consequently, they use expressions such *con permiso* (when entering someone's home or just passing someone on a crowded street) *orupe* (which is called out, instead of knocking at door). In fact, it is against the law, in Costa Rica, to offend someone's honor or dignity either in writing or face-to-face. If you offend someone, you could end up in jail!

Escuchar y no hablar	(es-koo- cha -ee-noh ah -blay):	<i>Listen and no talking</i>
Buenas Dias	(bway -nas- dee -ahs):	<i>Good Day</i>
Achara	(ach-a- rah):	<i>What a pity</i>
Buena note	(bway -nah- noh -tay):	<i>Cool</i>
Maje	(mah -hay):	<i>Buddy (males only)</i>
Amigo	(ah- mee -go)	<i>Friend</i>
Con permiso	(kahn-pur- mee -so):	<i>Excuse me</i>
Pura vida	(poor -ah- vee -dah):	<i>Great</i>

Guyabera Shirt or Shirt Jack	<i>shirt that doubles as a jacket in Central America</i>
Back strap Loom	<i>used in Guatemala to weave their famous material</i>
Mola	<i>type of embroidery by the Kuna Indians of Panama</i>

FURTHER INFORMATION ON CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica National Tourist Bureau
Telephone: 1-800-343-6332 toll-free in USA and Canada

Embassy of Costa Rica
2114 S Street NW
Washington, DC 20008

Embassy of Belize
2535 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20008

Embassy of Nicaragua
1627 New Hampshire Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20008

Embassy of Honduras
3007 Tilden St. NW
Washington, DC 20008

Embassy of El Salvador
2308 California St. NW
Washington, DC 20008

Embassy of Guatemala
2220 R Street NW
Washington, DC 20008

Embassy of the Republic of Panama
2862 McGill Terrace NW
Washington, DC 20008

<http://www.tourism-costarica.com/>

Let's Go Costa Rica 3rd Edition
by Let's Go Inc.

Laughing Out Loud, I fly: Poems in Spanish and English
by Juan Felipe
Harper Collins: New York, 1998.

THINGS TO DO AT HOME

Discuss what you saw with family and friends
Read about different Central American nations
Listen to Latino music
Make a Central American recipe

Many of the stories of different nations were passed down orally from generation to generation. These stories usually taught the children something about how to live, where their people came from or were just an amusing story for entertainment's sake.

Ask an older relative to tell you a story that they were told when they were little. The story can be true or not. Do not use any classic stories like Cinderella or other fairy tales. After you hear the story, write it down as you remember it, save it, and then pass it on to your children.