

# ***The Folklorists***

## **Curriculum Supplement**

### **Episode 1: La Llorona**

#### **Lower Grades**



#### **BASIC INFO**

**LOCATION: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**

- HAVE YOU BEEN TO MEXICO?
- LEGEND: LA LLORONA
  - LA LLORONA HAUNTS WATERWAYS LIKE RIVERS, AND ROADS NEAR WATER. SHE IS NORMALLY REPORTED TO BE CRYING

AND SEARCHING FOR HER LOST CHILDREN. SHE HAS ALSO BEEN SEEN WITH A SKIRT MADE OF SNAKES!

#### **ART PROMPT**

- DRAW A PICTURE OF AN ANIMAL YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AS YOUR PROTECTOR.

#### **DRAMA GAME: WHAT'S IN THE BOX?**

- STUDENTS TAKE TURNS HOLDING AN IMAGINARY BOX. ONE AT A TIME THEY TELL THE GROUP WHAT THEY THINK MIGHT BE IN THE BOX.
- ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY. WHAT'S IN THE BOX DOES NOT HAVE TO FIT INSIDE OF A BOX.
- ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO USE THEIR FIVE SENSES TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IS IN THE BOX. WHAT DOES IT SMELL LIKE? WHAT DOES IT SOUND LIKE?
- AFTER ONE ROUND OF ANYTHING BEING IN THE BOX, SEE IF LEARNERS CAN THINK OF THINGS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM LA LLORONA THAT MIGHT BE IN THE BOX.

#### **GROUP ACTIVITY**

CREATE A SOUNDSCAPE OF A RAINSTORM. EXPERIMENT WITH TAPPING YOUR FEET OR FINGERS TO MAKE THE PITTER PITTER SOUNDS. TRY STARTING OUT SOFTLY, GETTING LOUD AND THUNDEROUS, AND THEN COMING BACK DOWN TO A QUIET PITTER PITTER.

#### **REFLECTION**

- WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU HAVE A NIGHTMARE?
- DOES YOUR FAMILY HAVE ANY BELIEFS ABOUT WHAT DREAMS MEAN?



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#### **WRITING PROMPT**

- WHY DO YOU THINK LA LLORONA'S STORY IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP TELLING?

#### **DRAMA GAME: ZOMBIE (W/ LA LLORONA)**

- STUDENTS STAND IN A CIRCLE. RANDOMLY ASSIGN A BRAVE VOLUNTEER TO BE FIRST IN THE MIDDLE. VOLUNTEER HAS TO WALK TOWARD A STUDENT IN THE CIRCLE SLOWLY (AND IDEALLY WITH A SPOOKY, GHOSTLY BODY MOVEMENTS AND VOCAL SOUNDS).
- THE STUDENT THEY ARE WALKING TOWARD HAS TO NAME ANOTHER PERSON IN THE CIRCLE BEFORE THE GHOST (LA LLORONA) GETS TO THEM AND STEALS THEM DOWN TO THE UNDERWORLD!
- IF LA LLORONA GETS TO THE STUDENT BE CLEAR THAT THEY SHOULD JUST TAP THEIR SHOULDERS OR SOMETHING GENTLE AND NONINVASIVE LIKE THAT.
- IF A STUDENT GETS TAGGED THEY ARE THE NEXT GHOST IN THE CENTER.
- TRY TO ENCOURAGE KIDS TO BE INCLUSIVE AND NAME AS MANY DIFFERENT STUDENTS AS POSSIBLE!
- PLAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE!

#### **ART PROMPT**

CREATE A 4-PANEL COMIC OF WHAT HAPPENS IF KIDS DISOBEY THEIR GROWNUPS.

#### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

- WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY FROM MEL AND BRYAN IN DEALING WITH LA LLORONA?

