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DAY of the DEAD



GREG PAPROCKI



GIBBS SMITH

# Day of the Dead



## A COUNT AND FIND PRIMER

by Greg Paprocki



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Photographs of  
the Departed







# 10

Sugar Skulls





## These items are hidden. Can you find them all?

A Red Umbrella .....→ 

A Blue Bird .....→ 

A Purple Fan .....→ 

An Orange Butterfly .....→ 

A Green Accordion .....→ 

A Pink Skull .....→ 

A Brown Cat .....→ 

A Red Mask .....→ 

An Orange Pumpkin .....→ 

A Brown Rabbit .....→ 

## What do these words mean?

A comparsa is a carnival-like celebration where people dress up in brightly colored costumes and dance to music.



La Catrina, a female skeleton dressed in elegant clothing, is an essential part of the Day of the Dead. She is a character who was created long ago by a man named José Guadalupe Posada.

Photographs of the departed are one of the most important items placed on the altar, usually beside images of saints, the Virgin Mary, and Jesus.



Coronas de flores are crowns of flowers that are placed on a grave of a loved one every year.

Musicians will often walk through the graveyard and play music while everyone is celebrating their ancestors.



Pan de muertos, meaning bread of the dead, is a type of sweet bread that is often placed on an altar. It is also eaten by being dunked in hot chocolate or coffee.

The brightly colored orange petals of the marigold are said to represent the sun. These flowers lead spirits to the altar.



Candles are often seen on the altar, next to pictures, flowers, fruit, or other food items or offerings. Once evening has fallen, the candles are lit and the bright light helps to guide the spirits back to the land of the living.

Papel picado is decoratively cut paper, often tissue paper, that can be hung outside or placed next to the altar.



Sugar skulls are elaborately decorated skulls made from pure sugar. They are often given to friends and family as gifts.