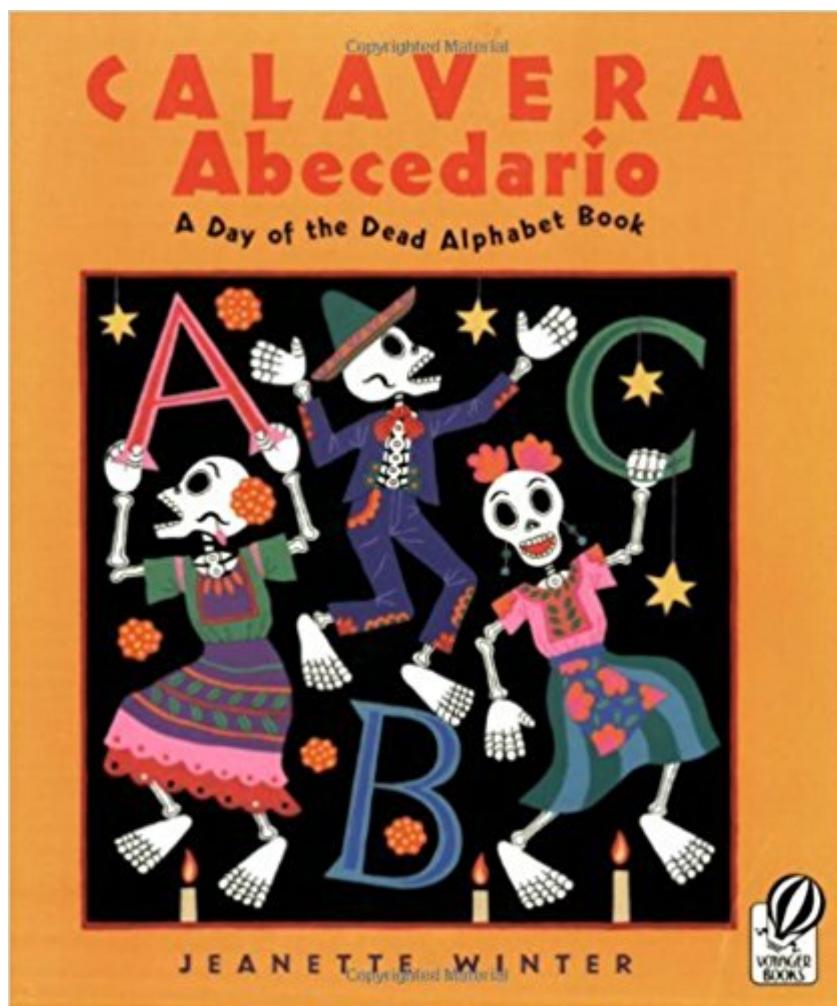


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# Calavera Abecedario: A Day Of The Dead Alphabet Book



## Synopsis

Every year Don Pedro and his family make papier-mâché skeletons, or calaveras, for Mexico's Day of the Dead fiesta. From the Angel and Doctor to the Mariachi and Unicornio, there's a special calavera for each letter of the alphabet. Come dance with them! Includes a glossary of Spanish words and an author's note.

## Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (September 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152059067

ISBN-13: 978-0152059064

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #657,310 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico #120 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Religious #407 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Non-religious

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 4âœA title that features jaunty illustrations inspired by Mexican folk art and a short story about preparations for the Day of the Dead that includes within it an alphabet book based on the Spanish alphabet. The heart of the book is the artwork: vivid pastel clothing and scenery set against shiny black backgrounds and complemented by the bright white of the skeletons that form an integral part of the Mexican and Mexican-American celebrations. Skeletal characters in the alphabet portion of the book include Ángel (angel) and bruja (witch), Kahlo (as in Frida, about whom Winter has written), and zapatero (shoemaker). While the glossary is helpful, the illustrations offer plenty of clues as to what each word means. The story that surrounds the alphabet concerns the family of Don Pedro, three generations of which join in the yearlong making of the papier-mâché skeletons for the fiestas in early November. An author's note includes information about the real Don Pedro, whose life inspired her book. This is a lovely book that

approaches the Day of the Dead from an unusual angle, reflecting not only the close family ties common to Mexican life but also the non-"devilish" nature of the celebrations. ©Coop Renner, Hillside Elementary, El Paso, TX Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

K-Gr. 3. Winter's continuing fascination with Mexican culture is evident in this alphabet book featuring el Dia de los Muertos--the Day of the Dead. The book opens as Don Pedro and his sons make papier-mache skeletons, Calaveras, on a rooftop in Mexico City. When the calaveras are ready, each one acts out a word in Spanish that begins with a letter of the alphabet: E for enfermera (nurse); H for huevera (egg seller); V for vaquero (cowboy). The Spanish language has no W, so that page depicts a skeleton pushing the letter off the edge of the picture. A glossary concludes, and an author's note pays tribute to a famous cala vera maker, Don Pedro Linares. Borders in sun-soaked colors contrast with black backgrounds that dramatically set off the white skeletons. Although readers looking for specific information about the fiesta won't find it here (for that they'll need to turn to Winter's 1997 book with author Tony Johnston, Day of the Dead) this striking celebration of an intriguing tradition will be welcomed by teachers, librarians, and Mexican American families, as well as by kids everywhere. Julie CumminsCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

It's not terrible, but I was underwhelmed. I love the illustrations for the ABC's (but they didn't put anything for W, what's up with that?). The little intro seemed sloppy (layout and content) and didn't really flow with the rest of the book.

This little book is absolutely dear, It has the happiest little skeletons, and the gentle good humor I expect from a good dia del muerto book.

I ordered this book for my daughter (she's four) who is very interested in skeletons and Dia de los Muertos. This is a lovely alphabet book to help encourage learning a second language whilst learning about Dia de los Muertos traditions. I'm even thinking about ordering more copies as gifts for others :)

This book is wonderfully illustrated, and kids love it. It has a great deal of re-read value for kids because the illustrations are so detailed. The Spanish is easy and many of the words listed are very

similar to their English counterparts. El Dia de los Muertos is fun anytime of the year, and this book is a visual treat...

I bought this book for my 3rd grade Spanish Dual-Immersion class. I love it and am excited to see what my students think of it next year for Day of the Dead.

The layout is poor. The pictures are doubled up and the extra text doesn't always line up with the illustrations

Excellent book. I use it during our unit on Day of the Dead. The students love it.

Just what we were looking for

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