

Playing Lotería: How to Make Your Own Game

WORKSHOP TITLE

DESCRIPTION

This activity will guide you through the process of making your own holiday board game inspired by the traditional game of *Lotería*! This board game is said to have originated in Europe and was brought to Mexico in 1769. It is a multiplayer game that includes a "caller", who calls out the cards using riddles while players fill out their *tablas* (or playing cards) by placing a small object on top of the picture called. Once a player's *tabla* is full, they can yell out "LOTERÍA!" to win the game.

Follow along and learn how to make your own *Lotería* playing set inspired by your favorite holiday foods and activities. Continue adding new cards to the game and play with your friends and family all winter long.

MATERIALS

- 4 sheets of white paper
- pencil
- eraser
- ruler
- markers or crayons
- scissors



ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. What exciting games do you and your family enjoy playing during the holidays?
2. What are some of your favorite holiday activities or treats and how would you represent them using symbols?



WORKSHOP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Make 9 squares on each sheet of paper by folding each sheet into thirds vertically, then horizontally.
 - This will create 9 squares on each sheets of paper.
2. Use a ruler and pencil to outline the creases that you made on paper.
3. Think about your favorite holiday activities and treats. What symbols can be used to represent them?
 - Make a list of at least 15 different symbols.
4. Let's make the calling cards!
 - Take two sheets of paper and sketch one symbol.
 - When you are done, you will three empty squares that will not be used.
5. Use markers or crayons to color in the calling cards.
6. Cut out each calling card using scissors.
7. Time to make the *tablas* (boards) for the game!
 - Take the last two sheets of paper and decide what symbols you wish to add to each *tabla*.
 - Keep in mind, each *tabla* can have similar symbols, but cannot be identical.
8. Use a pencil to sketch in symbols. Then, use markers or crayons to color each symbol in.
9. You are done! Share with your friends and family and play a round!

RESOURCES TO EXPLORE TOGETHER

1. Laínez, René Colato. *Playing Lotería: El juego de la lotería*. Cooper Square Publishing, 2006.
2. LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes: Lotería! Lotería! Lotería! with Dr. Gloria Arjona, Lecturer and Entertainer, May 2020, www.youtube.com/laplazala.