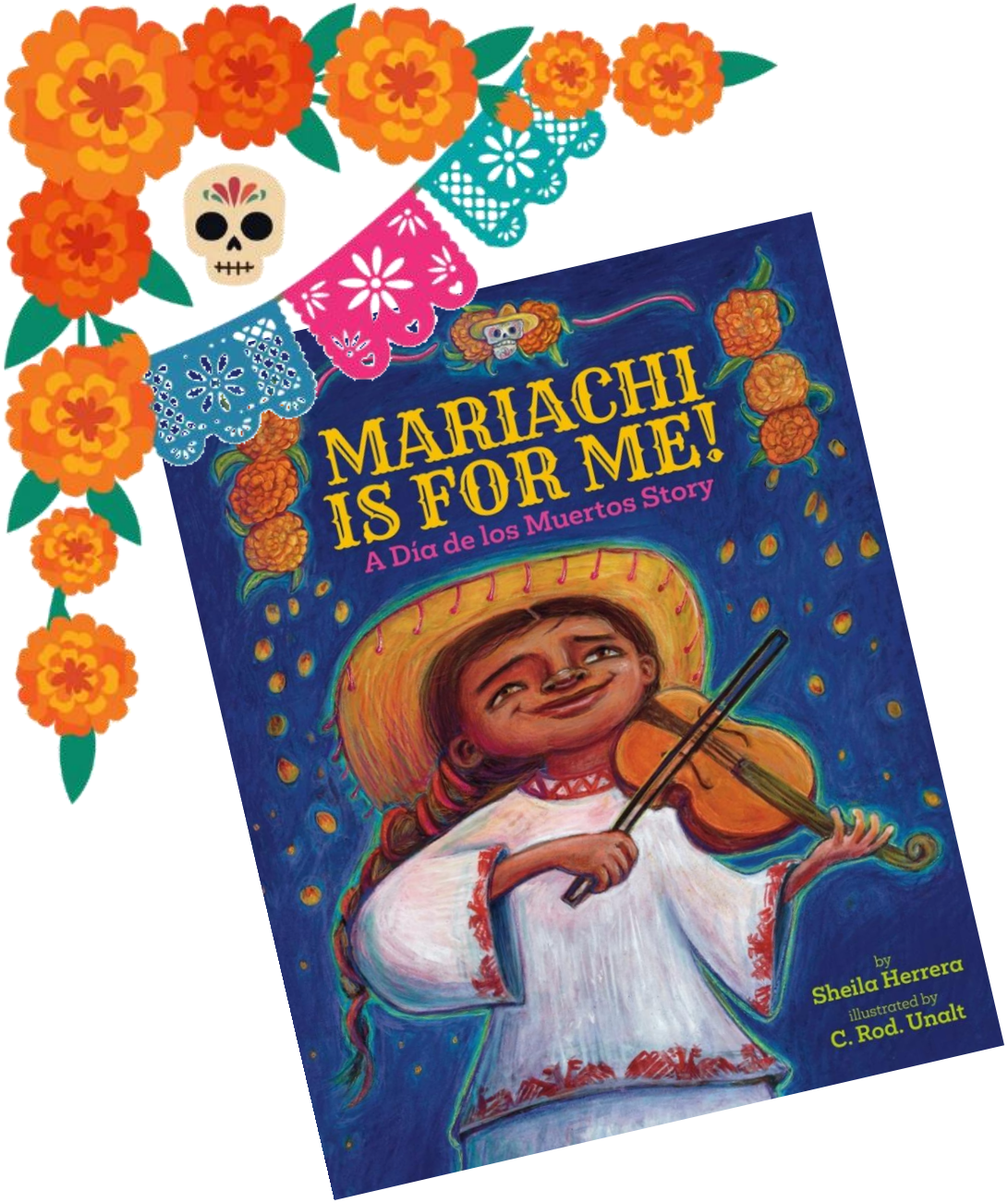


Pre-K Teacher's Guide

MARIACHI IS FOR ME!

A Día de los Muertos Story

By Sheila Herrera
Illustrated by C. Rod. Unalt

- Pre-K Developmental Domains & Concepts
- Learning Objectives
- Summary
- Reading Interest Level
- Discussion Questions
- Bonus Activities & Worksheets

NAEYC Core Developmental Domains & Concepts

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Pre-K Core Developmental Domains & Concepts

- **Social-Emotional Skills:** Building empathy
- **Executive Function:** Practicing working memory, planning ahead
- **Early Literacy & Language:** Recognizing letters and sounds, engaging in shared book reading and storytelling
- **Mathematical Ideas:** Counting, recognizing numbers, understanding special relationships such as above below, next to
- **Approaches to Learning:** Fostering curiosity, creative thinking, reasoning, problem solving

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- Use context clues from illustrations to guess how characters feel (happy, sad, mad, scared) and share how they would feel if they were in the same situation.
- Use illustrations to predict and recall what happened in the scene(s) on a spread.
- Follow along as an adult reads the book, recognizing initial letters and sounds from words in the story
- Use objects on a page by category or on an activity sheet to count to 10.
- Use illustrations to identify special relationships on a spread.
- Use the cover of the book to foster curiosity about the story.

Summary

Rosa is a young Huichol Mexican girl who dreams of being a mariachi like her papá and playing with him at Día de los Muertos, but she is told that women weave and only men are mariachis. This fiction picture book was loosely inspired by Rosa Quirino, who at the age of 13 joined an all-male mariachi band becoming the first recorded female mariachi.

Reading Interest Level

- Ages 4 to 8

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Before Reading

- Show students the cover and end pages. Ask them:
  - What do you think the book is about? Why?
  - Where do you think the girl lives? Why?
  - What do you notice about her hair? (The color is brown. She wears it in a long braid. And Rosa always wears a red ribbon in her hair. The illustrator did this so the reader can always spot her in the book.)

During Reading Aloud

- Point to characters faces and ask students:
  - How do you think this person feels? Why?
  - How would you feel if …?
- Use illustrations or read the text on a spread and ask students:
  - What do you think will happen next?
  - As students follow along, ask them to recognize initial letters and sounds of words in the story (Rosa, Papá, mariachi, Mamá, violin).
  - Have students count similar objects on a page up to 10.
  - Does anyone what the Spanish word “¡Si!” means in English (“Yes!”)?
  - What made Papa’s ‘No!” turn into a “Yes!” (page 23)?
- Use illustrations to identify special relationships on a page (above, below, next to). For example:
  - Who is Rosa standing next to?
  - What is above Rosa’s head?
  - What is below the stage?

After Reading

- Ask students:
  - What was your favorite part of the story? Why?
  - Have you ever been told “No!” by someone? How did it make you feel?

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Activity: Mariachi Freeze Dance / Mariachi Statues

- Play mariachi music. Tell students to dance around the room to the music. When the music stops they should freeze like a statue. Repeat the process several times.

Activity: Follow the Grito

- Gritos are shouts of expression rooted in Mexican culture. They can be joyful or sad. Reread the gritos from *Mariachi is for Me!* and then play follow the grito. Make up different kinds of gritos and have the students try to repeat your gritos (loud, soft, long, short, happy, sad).

Activity: Calavera (Skull) Mask

- Print the calavera worksheet template on cardstock. For preschoolers, cut out the skull shape and eyes. Have each student color their calavera mask. Give each student a large tongue depressor or popsicle stick. Have them tape the stick onto the back of the mask, hold the mask over their face, and march around the room.

Worksheets

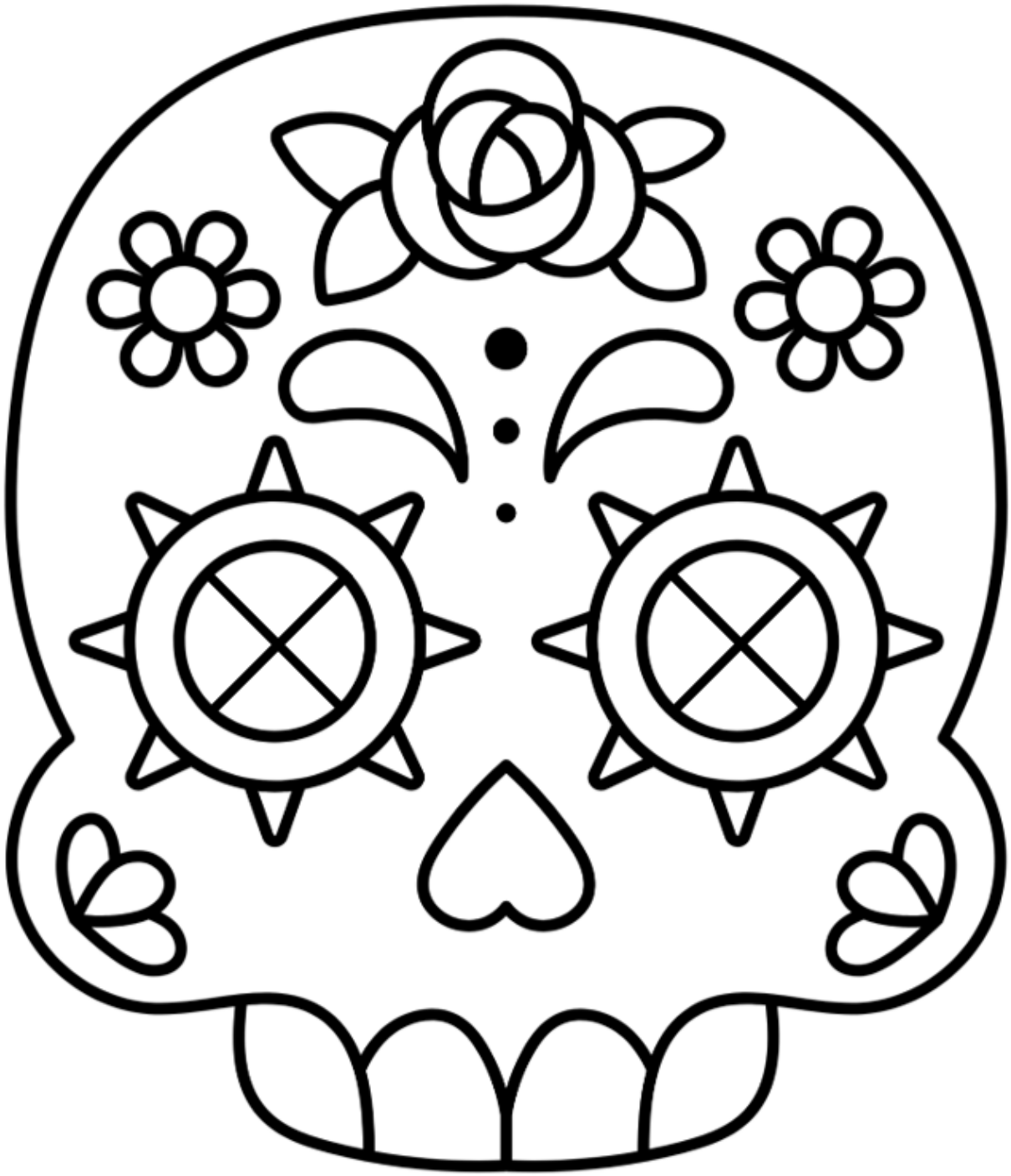
Refer to the following pages for optional worksheets.

- Calavera (Skull) Mask
- Which one is different?
- Count and color papel picado

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Calavera (Skull) Mask

Print one mask on cardstock for each student. For preschoolers, cut out the mask and the area of the eyes with an X. Students will color their skull mask. Give each student a large tongue depressor or popsicle stick. Have them tape the stick to the bottom back side of the mask and hold the mask over their face.

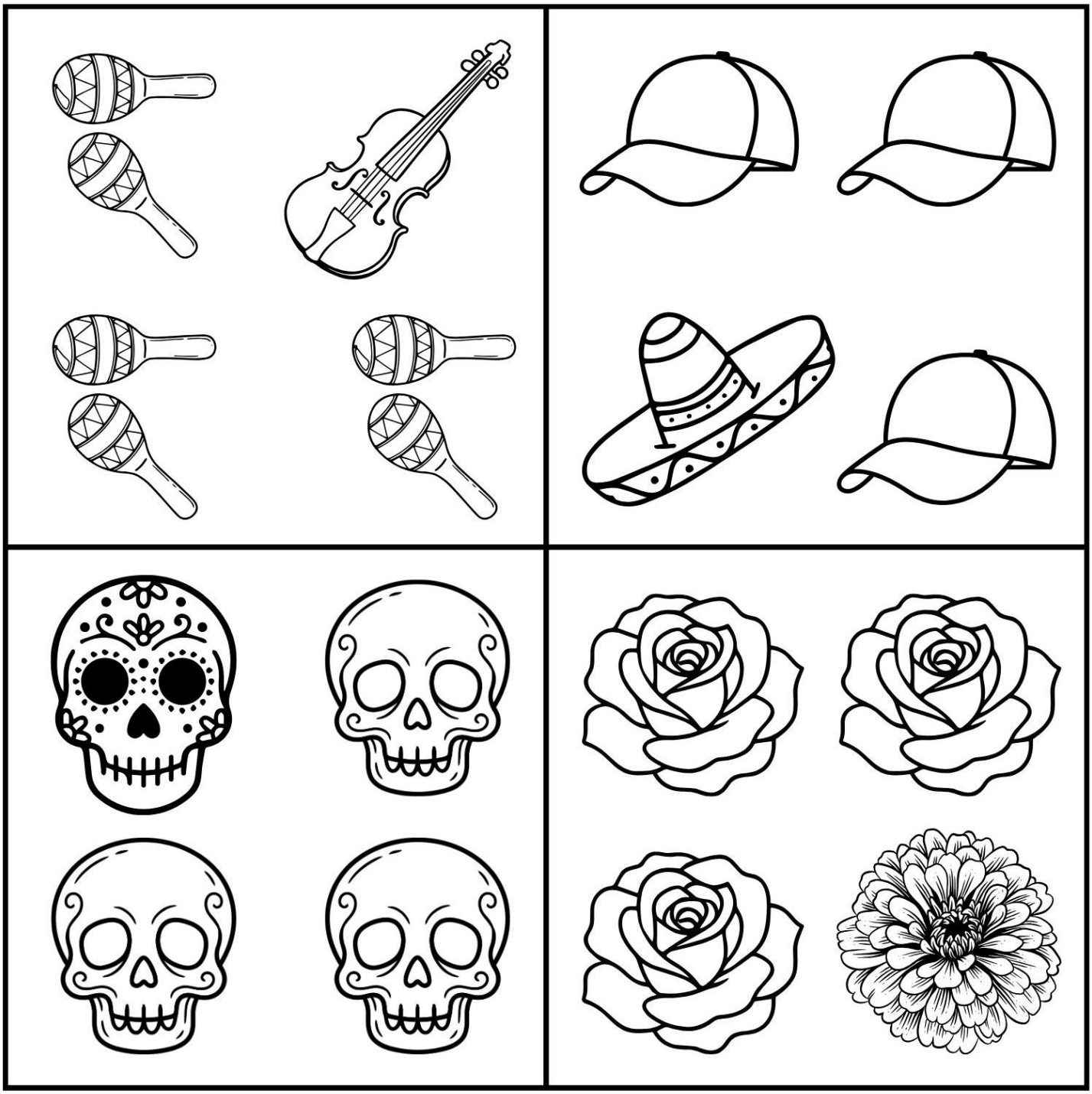


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Name: _____

Which one is different?

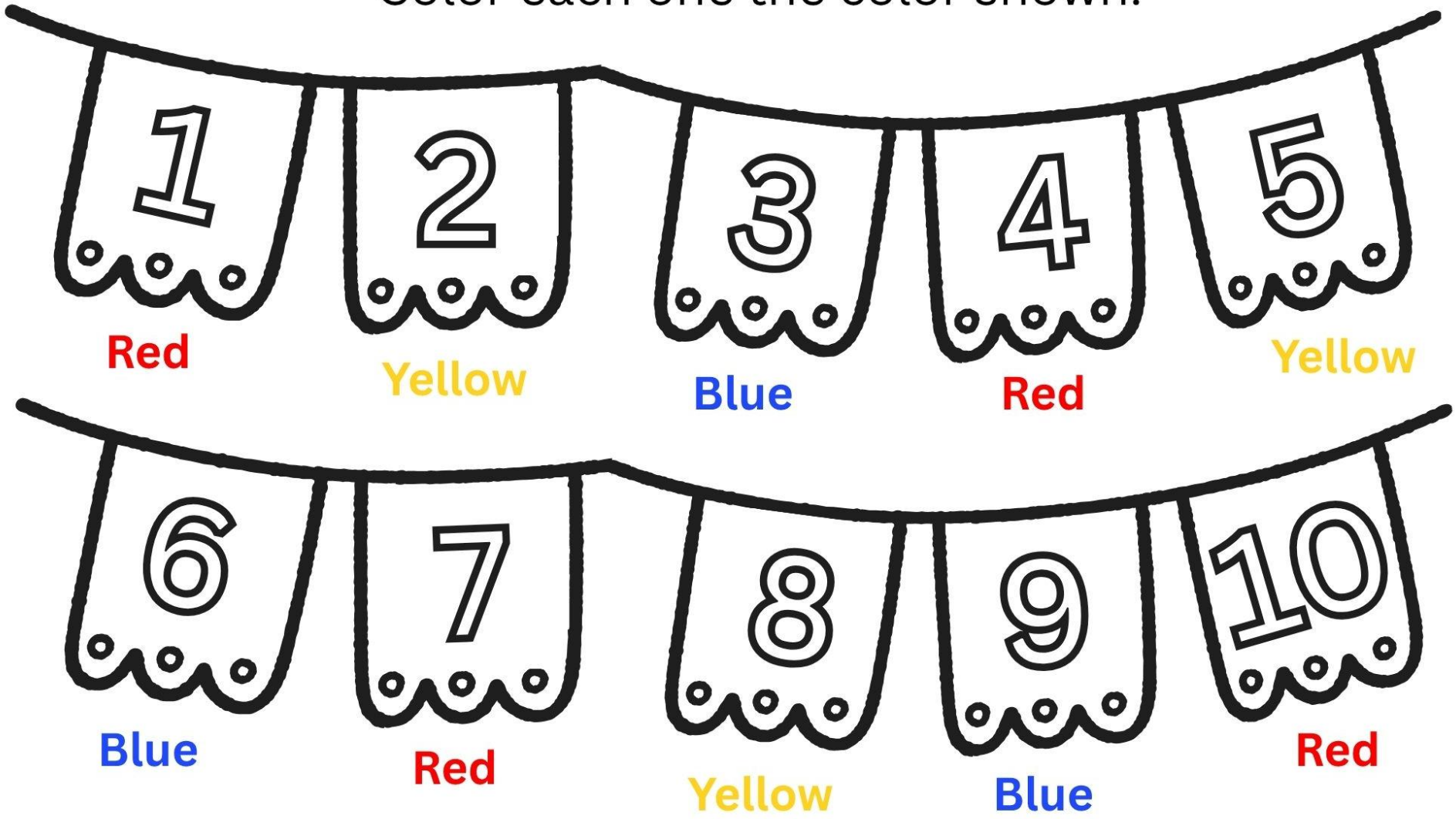
Color the object that is **different** in each box.



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Name: _____

Count the number of papel picado.
Color each one the color shown.



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