



Dia de los Muertos at Cheekwood Detailed Social Story™



I am going to Cheekwood for the Día de los Muertos festival on November 1st. This is a Latin American holiday that honors family and celebrates life. There will be many activities for me to do at the festival.

There might be a lot of cars parked for the festival. If there are lot of cars, we might have to park outside of the gates and ride a shuttle bus to the festival. I might like riding the shuttle with my mom or dad. I will try to be respectful by staying in my seat and talking quietly to my mom or dad.

After we get to the festival, we will go to the Visitor Center or to a tent near the Visitors Center. If we park near the back we will go to a tent near the Frist Learning Center. There may be other people and I might have to wait in line. I can wait nicely by standing near my mom and dad, talking quietly, and keeping my hands to myself.

At the Visitor Center or tent, we will buy tickets and get a program. I can look at the program that has a schedule and map inside. The schedule will tell me all the fun things there are to do. I can also look at the map. The map will tell me where the different activities are at Cheekwood. I can talk to my mom or dad about what I would like to go do and see.

There might be a lot of other people there to celebrate too! It might get crowded or loud with music playing. If it is crowded or loud, I can ask my mom or dad for a break. We will try to find a quiet place to sit. A quiet space will be located inside the Visitor Center. There will be music and dancing. Some people might be dancing on stage. I can dance on the ground. Some people might be wearing costumes. They wear costumes to celebrate the festival.

An important part of the festival is the memorial altars for loved ones who have died. Altars are tables that families and community groups have decorated. There might be pictures, drawings, flowers, or lights. When I see the altars, I will try to be respectful. Being respectful means looking with my eyes and keeping my hands to myself. If I see things I like, I can try to ask questions about the decorations. The people at the altars might like it when I ask them questions.

There will also be a marketplace at the festival. In the marketplace, I might see art or food people have made. I might like looking at the displays in the marketplace. If I see something I like, I can ask my mom or dad if we can buy it. They might say no. If they say no, I can still look at the shops. I should try to be respectful in the marketplace by keeping my hands to myself and staying with my mom or dad.

There will be tables with art activities for me to do. Some of the tables might be crowded. I will try to wait my turn. There will be someone there to help me make the craft. If I don't know what to do, I can try to ask for help. Some art activities might be making flowers out of paper, making masks, or skulls out of clay. I can take my art activities home with me. Making an art activity might be fun!

We might be at the festival for a long time and I might need to go to the bathroom. If I need to go to the bathroom, I can ask my mom or dad and we will go to the closest bathroom. There are bathrooms in the museum, Frist Learning Center, and Visitor Center. The map will show me where the bathrooms are.

El Día de los Muertos at Cheekwood might be lots of fun. I might learn new things and make new friends. There will be a lot of things to do. My mom and dad will be happy when I am respectful at the festival.