

Cinco de Mayo Games and Activities

Limbo Contest Invite some local children to your community for a Cinco de Mayo celebration. Create a limbo stick using colorful masking tape and pvc pipe. Play Mexican music and have your residents hold the limbo stick for the children.



Macarena Teach your residents the moves to the [Macarena](#) and have a dance party. Even those residents in wheel chairs can participate and have some fun and exercise.

Mexican Murals Mexico has had a tradition of painting murals, starting with the Olmec civilization in the pre-Hispanic period and into the colonial period. Promotion of mural painting started in the 1920s, generally with social and political messages. Learn more about [Mexican Muralism](#). Invite your residents to create their own murals by hanging large pieces of paper in common places and supply residents with colored chalk, pastels or paint.



Margaritas Margaritas are the drink of choice on Cinco de Mayo. Learn how to make a [proper margarita](#) and treat your residents and guests to a refreshing cocktail (virgin margaritas are also an option!)

Taco Truck Food trucks, and especially taco trucks, have become popular in recent years. Check to see if you can get a taco truck to come to your community. Get your residents involved in the growing trend of fresh and gourmet food eaten outdoors. Include staff and families to join the fun.



Mariachi Mariachi is a form of folk music that began in the nineteenth century in the Mexican state of Jalisco. Invite a local Mariachi band to perform for your residents. They will enjoy the colors and enthusiasm of the musicians.

Cinco de Mayo Bingo Create your own “C-I- N-C-O” cards using a Cinco de Mayo/Mexican theme. Cards might include colors or numbers in Spanish, Mexican food items, Mexican flag, etc. You can also allow players to create their own cards using the pre-selected words. Use beans for markers and a Mexican sombrero to hold call cards.

Buenos Amigos (Good Friends) Set a timer to 2 minutes and have the players write as many kind things as they can think of about the person (amigo) on their right. Encourage them to use any Spanish words they know. Give the paper to the amigo to take home.



Cinco de Mayo Twenty Questions The first player starts by choosing a Cinco de Mayo related person, place, or thing. The player says, “I’m thinking of something.” The other players try to guess what it is by asking no more than twenty questions that can be answered “Si,” “No,” or “No Se.” The player who guesses correctly is next up.

Cinco de Mayo Pictionary

Materials:

Whiteboard

Dry Erase markers

Eraser

Sombrero

Slips of paper with Cinco de Mayo/Mexican objects written on them
Timer



Directions:

Put slips of paper with Cinco de Mayo/Mexican objects written on them into hat. Divide players into 2 groups. Decide which team will go first. One player from that team picks a slip of paper from the hat and reads it to themselves. The player draws the object on the board, trying to get their team members to guess the object. If the team guesses correctly, before time runs out, they score a point. If the playing team does not guess correctly the other team has ten seconds to try to come up with the correct answer. If they guess correctly, they score a point and it is their turn to play.

How Many Beans On a small piece of paper, have players write their name and their guess as to how many beans are in the jar. The person who guesses the right number or comes closest wins a prize.

Spanish Word Game

Materials:

A list of 10-20 Spanish words

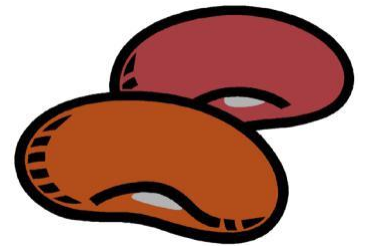
Pencils



Directions:

Make enough copies of the word list for each player or team. Players need to write down the meaning for each word. The team or player with the most correct answers wins.

Pass the Sombrero The players sit in a circle and pass a sombrero to the person on their right as Mexican music plays in the background. As each person receives





the sombrero, they must put it on their head for a second before passing it on to the next person. When the music stops, whoever is holding the sombrero is out of the game. The game continues until only one person remains.

Mexico Film Fest There are many classic movies set in Mexico. Screen some of these classics for your residents: *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*, *A fistful of Dollars*, *Frida*, *The Pearl*, and *Portrait of Maria*. Instead of popcorn, serve chips and salsa.



Succulent Garden Succulent gardens are inexpensive and easy to maintain. They are a welcome addition to any community, indoor and out. Succulents can be planted in unique containers, incorporating colorful gravel and sand. Invite your residents to be creative! [Decorating with Succulents.](#)

Tamales Tamales are a favorite comfort food in Mexico, eaten for both breakfast and dinner. The most common fillings are pork and chicken, in either red or green salsa or mole. Cooking tamales is done in batches of tens if not hundreds, and is typically done as a group project. Enlist residents and staff to work together to create traditional or unique tamales. There's a job for everyone! [Tamale Cooking Class](#)

