# The Big Book

## Introduction & Objective:

A big book is a teacher created book that reiterates a main theme or "the big idea" of a unit and presents new content information. The book can be physically big if it is created using poster board, but a smaller version can be made using construction paper. In the big book content is presented on each page that reinforces the main idea. The main statement is the first and last sentence or paragraph on each page. The majority of the work in this activity is done by the teacher in preparing the book. For the students, this is more of a read aloud activity. For your use, we have created a big book about Día de los Muertos and included it in the appendix.

## Recommended Grades:

Adaptable for all grade levels

## Estimated Time:

Varies depending upon the length of the book

## Materials:

• Teacher-created Big Book

## Procedure:

1. Preparation: Create or Print the provided Big Book. If you are creating your own book, find an image to illustrate each page (using an internet image search). Glue the image on one page, then the content information that should accompany the image on the next page. Students should be able to see both the image and the content at the same time. See the example we've provided for more guidance.
2. As a whole class, read the big book to students. After students have heard the main idea repeated a few times, encourage them to say the main idea with you at the beginning and end of each page. Depending upon the length of the book and the age level of students, this activity may need to be completed over multiple days. The book can also be read once at the beginning of the unit and then once at the end, allowing for discussion or connections students may make once they have learned more about Día de los Muertos.
3. This activity can be expanded to have students create their own big books. This can be done in small groups where each group creates one page, or individually where each student creates one page. Then compile all of the pages into one book.