

# Hispanic Heritage Month Scavenger Hunt Activity

## Materials:

- 18 Hispanic Heritage Month fact cards (pages 2–6)
- Hispanic Heritage Month questions worksheet (pages 7–8)
- scissors
- scotch tape

## Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the Hispanic Heritage Month questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide all 18 Hispanic Heritage Month fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.

## Activity

Students receive copies of the question worksheet. They have to search the classroom to find the fact cards to answer the questions.

After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

## Management tips

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other. You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

## Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- lying flat on the classroom bookshelf
- on the side of the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair

*Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.*





### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

1



National Hispanic Heritage Week began in 1968. In 1988, it expanded to a month. It honors the cultures and contributions of Hispanic Americans.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

2



Hispanic Heritage Month is September 15 to October 15. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua celebrate independence on September 15.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

3



Romualdo Pacheco briefly stepped up as California's first (and only!) Hispanic governor in 1875. He became the first voting Hispanic congressman in 1879 for the same state.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

4



American cowboy culture began in Mexico. Spanish settlers brought their cattle-herding methods with them. *Vaqueros*, the first cowboys, then spread widely.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

5



Hispanics are the second-fastest growing ethnic group in the U.S. A 2024 survey showed they are about 20% of the population, or about 68 million people.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

6



In 1977, Puerto Rican entertainer Rita Moreno became the third EGOT winner (Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony). She was the first-ever Hispanic winner.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

7



Most Hispanic dishes use crops from Latin America. These include corn (maize), common beans, chili peppers, tomatoes, and potatoes.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

8

Óscar de la Renta was a fashion designer with citizenship in the U.S. and Dominican Republic. Queens, first ladies, and stars like Taylor Swift have worn his and his label's gowns.





### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

9



Franklin Chang-Díaz (1986) and Ellen Ochoa (1993) were the first Hispanic American man and woman in space.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

10



In 1980, Luis Alvarez and his son were the first to suggest a meteor killed the dinosaurs. He was also the first

Hispanic American to win a Nobel prize in physics.

### Scavenger Hunt

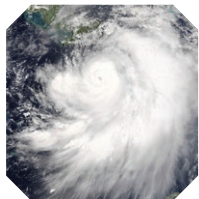
## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

11

Many English words come from Spanish, often starting in native languages.

**examples:**



hurricane  
(Taíno:  
juracán),



tomato  
(Nahautl:  
tomatl),



mosquito  
(Spanish for  
little fly)

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

12



In 2009, Sonia Sotomayor became the third woman and first Hispanic American to sit on the Supreme Court.

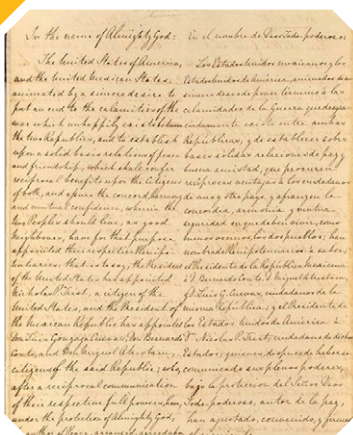


## Scavenger Hunt

### Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

13



Land from the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo helped form 7 states.

One was New Mexico.

It has the

highest Hispanic population by percentage: almost 50%.

## Scavenger Hunt

### Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

14



There are many kinds of Hispanic music, like salsa, tango, bachata, and Latin pop. Reggaeton, which developed in Puerto Rico, is one of the most popular genres in the world.

## Scavenger Hunt

### Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

15



Nearly 60% of the U.S.'s Hispanic population has Mexican ancestry. That's about 40 million people, or about 11% of the total U.S. population.

## Scavenger Hunt

### Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

16



Basketball Hall-of-Famer Carmelo Anthony was born to Black and Puerto Rican parents. He won four Olympic medals: one bronze, three gold.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

**17**



Hispanic aid helped win the Revolutionary War. Bernardo de Gálvez of Spanish Louisiana

supplied and fought with the Continental Army. Cuba raised \$500,000 (over \$12 million today) for the siege of Yorktown.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Fact Card

**18**



Not all of Latin America is Hispanic! *Hispanic* refers to Spanish history and language. Places like Brazil (Portuguese) and Haiti (French) are different.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Side A

# Hispanic Heritage Month Scavenger

**Fact Card 1:** When did Hispanic Heritage Week expand into a full month? \_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 2:** List five Hispanic countries with independence days on September 15.

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**Fact Card 3:** Who was the first voting Hispanic member of Congress? For which state?

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**Fact Card 4:** What were the first cowboys called?

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**Fact Card 5:** About how many Hispanic people live in the United States?

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**Fact Card 6:** Rita Moreno was only the third person to win which set of awards?

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**Fact Card 7:** What are three kinds of crops that come from Latin America?

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**Fact Card 8:** Óscar de la Renta was a citizen of both the United States and...

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**Fact Card 9:** Who was the first Hispanic American woman in space? When?

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# Hispanic Heritage Month Scavenger

**Fact Card 10:** Luis Alvarez and his son were the first people to do what?

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**Fact Card 11:** What does *mosquito* mean in the original Spanish?

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**Fact Card 12:** When was the first Hispanic American appointed to the Supreme Court?

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**Fact Card 13:** Which state's population has the highest percentage of Hispanics?

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**Fact Card 14:** Where did the reggaeton music genre develop?

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**Fact Card 15:** What percent of the total U.S. population has Mexican ancestry?

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**Fact Card 16:** How many gold medals did Carmelo Anthony help the U.S. win?

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**Fact Card 17:** How much money did Cuba fundraise for the siege of Yorktown?

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**Fact Card 18:** Give an example of a Latin American country that is not Hispanic.

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# Hispanic Heritage Month Scavenger

**Fact Card 1:** When did Hispanic Heritage Week expand into a full month? 1988

**Fact Card 2:** List five Hispanic countries with independence days on September 15.

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua

**Fact Card 3:** Who was the first voting Hispanic member of Congress? For which state?

Romualdo Pacheco; California

**Fact Card 4:** What were the first cowboys called?

vaqueros

**Fact Card 5:** About how many Hispanic people live in the United States?

about 68 million

**Fact Card 6:** Rita Moreno was only the third person to win which set of awards?

Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony (EGOT)

**Fact Card 7:** What are three kinds of crops that come from Latin America?

accept any three: corn (maize), common beans, chili peppers,

tomatoes, potatoes

**Fact Card 8:** Óscar de la Renta was a citizen of both the United States and...

the Dominican Republic

**Fact Card 9:** Who was the first Hispanic American woman in space? When?

Ellen Ochoa; 1993

# Hispanic Heritage Month Scavenger

**Fact Card 10:** Luis Alvarez and his son were the first people to do what?

**suggest a meteor killed the dinosaurs**

**Fact Card 11:** What does *mosquito* mean in the original Spanish?

**little fly**

**Fact Card 12:** When was the first Hispanic American appointed to the Supreme Court?

**2009**

**Fact Card 13:** Which state's population has the highest percentage of Hispanics?

**New Mexico**

**Fact Card 14:** Where did the reggaeton music genre develop?

**Puerto Rico**

**Fact Card 15:** What percent of the total U.S. population has Mexican ancestry?

**about 11%**

**Fact Card 16:** How many gold medals did Carmelo Anthony help the U.S. win?

**three**

**Fact Card 17:** How much money did Cuba fundraise for the siege of Yorktown?

**\$500,000 (over \$12 million today)**

**Fact Card 18:** Give an example of a Latin American country that is not Hispanic.

**accept either: Brazil or Haiti**