

# Unit 4: Central America: Nicaragua/Guatemala/Panama

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**  
Course(s): **Spanish**  
Time Period: **January**  
Length: **5 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## **Transfer Skills**

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Discuss the impact of technology on the environment.

Explore the environment in places other than the United States

Why do other risk everything to immigrate to the United States.

## **Enduring Understandings**

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Successful communication is knowing how, when and why to convey a message to different audiences.

Language learning involves acquiring strategies to fill communication gaps.

The content of the world languages classroom encompasses the entire learning experience.

Learning a different language/culture leads to greater understanding of one's own and other languages/cultures and why people think and act in different ways

Language reflects and is influenced by the culture in which it is found.

Cultural perspectives are gained by using the language and through experience with its products and practices.

Members of one culture may make assumptions about other cultures based on their own attitudes, values and beliefs.

## **Essential Questions**

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How do I develop communicative competence?

How do I know that I am getting better in using language in real-world situations?

What strategies do I need to communicate in linguistically and culturally appropriate ways?

When does accuracy matter?

How does the content of the world languages classroom help me understand who I am and the world in which

I live?

How does content help me respond to important questions that extend my learning beyond the classroom?

Why do people from different cultures sometimes say, write and do things differently from the way I do them?

How is language a product of culture?

How are cultural perspectives (attitudes, values and beliefs) reflected in a culture's products and social practices?

What role does stereotyping play in forming and sustaining prejudices about other cultures?

## **Content**

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Students will be able to talk about and discuss Nicaragua, Guatemala and Panama by exploring the countries according to the following categories.

Education

Economy

Festivals/Holidays/Celebrations

TV/Film

Food

Geography

History

Language

Literature

Media in Spanish

Museums

Music and Dance

Myths and Legends

Parks and Places

Pastimes and Hobbies

People

Performing Arts

Politics/Activism

Seasons and Weather

Shopping

Social customs and traditions

Sports

## **Skills**

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Discuss important customs and traditions of your family.

Compare values and traditions of your family to families in the Hispanic World.

Read and interpret authentic materials covering the issues of immigration.

Watch and interpret an authentic film from Nicaragua.

Read and interpret an authentic literature piece from Costa Rica.

## **Resources**

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## **Standards**

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WL.7.1.NM.A.1	Recognize familiar spoken or written words and phrases contained in culturally authentic materials using electronic information and other sources related to targeted themes.
WL.7.1.NM.A.2	Demonstrate comprehension of simple, oral and written directions, commands, and requests through appropriate physical response.
WL.7.1.NM.A.3	Recognize a few common gestures and cultural practices associated with the target culture(s).

WL.7.1.NM.A.4	Identify familiar people, places, and objects based on simple oral and/or written descriptions.
WL.7.1.NM.A.5	Demonstrate comprehension of brief oral and written messages using age - and level - appropriate, culturally authentic materials on familiar topics.
WL.7.1.NM.B.1	Use digital tools to exchange basic information at the word and memorized - phrase level related to self and targeted themes.
WL.7.1.NM.B.2	Give and follow simple oral and written directions, commands, and requests when participating in age - appropriate classroom and cultural activities.
WL.7.1.NM.B.3	Imitate appropriate gestures and intonation of the target culture(s)/language during greetings, leave - takings, and daily interactions.
WL.7.1.NM.B.4	Ask and respond to simple questions, make requests, and express preferences using memorized words and phrases.
WL.7.1.NM.B.5	Exchange information using words, phrases, and short sentences practiced in class on familiar topics or on topics studied in other content areas.
WL.7.1.NM.C.1	Use basic information at the word and memorized - phrase level to create a multimedia - rich presentation on targeted themes to be shared virtually with a target language audience.
WL.7.1.NM.C.2	Imitate, recite, and/or dramatize simple poetry, rhymes, songs, and skits.
WL.7.1.NM.C.3	Copy/write words, phrases, or simple guided texts on familiar topics.
WL.7.1.NM.C.4	Present information from age - and level - appropriate, culturally authentic materials orally or in writing.
WL.7.1.NM.C.5	Name and label tangible cultural products and imitate cultural practices from the target culture(s).