

HISTORYMIAMI

Saludos Amigos

Student Activity Booklet

HistoryMiami
101 West Flagler Street
Miami, Florida 33130
www.historymiami.org

Name: _____ School: _____

This piece was produced in partnership with the Latin American and Caribbean Center at Florida International University. Funding made possible through U.S. Department of Education Title VI Grant. For more information about Latin America and the Caribbean, please visit the LACC website at <http://lacc.fiu.edu>

FIU | Latin American and Caribbean Center
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

What is a museum?

A museum is a place where a collection of valuable objects is kept, studied and displayed in exhibits. Soon educators from HistoryMiami will be visiting you. These educators work in a museum, so we call them museum educators.

Do you collect anything? _____

Why do you like to collect these things? _____

Have you ever been to a museum? _____

What did you see there? _____



There are many different types of museums.

Match the words on the left with the correct item(s) on the right.

Type of museum

Zoo

Botanical garden

Science museum

Art museum

History museum

Aquarium

Planetarium

What will I learn about?

flowers and plants

paintings and sculptures

prehistoric tools

fish

stars and planets

lions and elephants

lasers and magnets

The Museum at HistoryMiami collects objects related to the history of South Florida

Circle what you think you can see at HistoryMiami

live animals

maps

Seminole beads sculpture

cannon

plants

lighthouse lens

What is a map?



A map is a drawing that represents an area of land or sea showing physical features, such as countries, states, cities, roads, and more. Maps can show us where we are and where we want to go.

During HistoryMiami's visit to your classroom you will learn about Latin America through one of our Map Programs.

Map Vocabulary Words

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. ___ Topography | a. A book that holds a collection of maps |
| 2. ___ Cartographer | b. Distance north or south of the equator |
| 3. ___ Atlas | c. An imaginary circle around the middle of the Earth |
| 4. ___ Globe | d. Method of figuring out position and distance traveled |
| 5. ___ Latitude | e. The natural features of a location usually seen on a map |
| 6. ___ Longitude | f. North, South, East, West |
| 7. ___ Equator | g. A device used to determine direction |
| 8. ___ Navigation | h. Someone that makes maps |
| 9. ___ Cardinal Directions | i. A round model of the Earth |
| 10. ___ Compass | j. Distance east or west of the Prime Meridian |

Why are maps important? What can we learn from maps?

Have you ever used a map? What did you find with it?

What type of modern technology might you use today instead of a paper map?

How can maps and objects tell stories?



1. e 2. h 3. a 4. i 5. b 6. j 7. c 8. d 9. f 10. g

Latin America



“In 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue.” It was on October 12 of that iconic year that Christopher Columbus made landfall on an island in the Bahamas and began the European exploration of the Americas.

The term Latin America is used to describe the region south of the Rio Grande (the river at the border of Texas and Mexico) including South America, Central America, the Caribbean and the southern region of North America. Latin America encompasses a wide range of natural environments, folk traditions, ethnic groups and history. Much of Latin America’s history was defined by Spanish rule for several centuries. Because of the influence of Spain’s colonialism in the region, Spanish is the most common language spoken throughout Latin America to this day.

However, many indigenous languages are still spoken as are other European languages. Over the last few centuries, Latin American cultures have developed distinct traditions that characterize each individual country. Today, we are going to learn about some of the traditions, history and surroundings of Latin America.

List 3 things you already know about Latin America:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Name Game

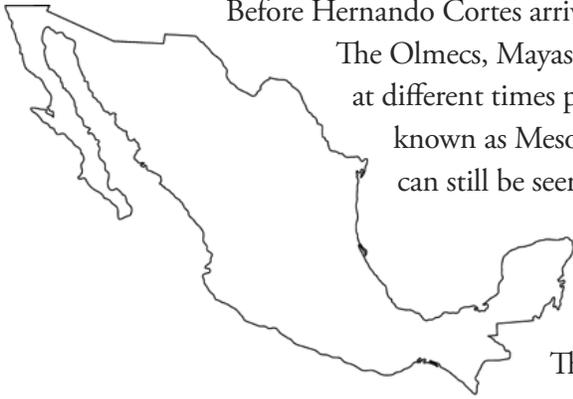
Many of the countries located throughout Latin America got their names from historical events or important historical figures. For example, Bolivia was named after Simón Bolívar, a leader in the Spanish American Wars for Independence. Pretend that you are an explorer and you have arrived in a new land. Describe in detail what you think you would see and then name the area. Does the area remind you of a place you visited before?

Will you name it in honor of a person or special event?

Are there native people occupying the land? What are its resources?



Mexico



Before Hernando Cortes arrived in 1519 Mexico was home to four great civilizations.

The Olmecs, Mayas, Toltecs, and Aztecs all maintained impressive empires at different times prior to European colonization. Their civilizations are known as Mesoamerican. Remnants of the great Mesoamerican empires can still be seen today in the ancient art and architecture of places like Teotihuacan. Remnants of sculpture, jewelry and codices (Aztec books) also highlight the style and splendor of Mesoamerican art.

The ancient Egyptians may be famous for building pyramids, but did you know that the Maya and Aztec constructed pyramids too? Aztec pyramids date back to the 15th century and the Mayan pyramids are even older than that! The pyramids stood as important architectural structures in their societies and served as locations for political and ceremonial practices.

Today, Mexico and the United States share a 2,000 mile border. Political and economic relations between the U.S. and Mexico have a direct impact on the lives of millions of Mexicans and Americans. The close proximity of the two countries has allowed for various customs to cross the border and become commonplace in U.S. cities. For example, Mexican food is a favorite culinary dish for many U.S. citizens. Many of the flavors and dishes in Mexican food have their roots in Spanish, African, Maya and Aztec traditions.



Many cultures all over the world have used the pyramid shape in architecture. Investigate where and why other cultures have also used pyramids. What are the similarities and/or differences between the pyramids from other countries?



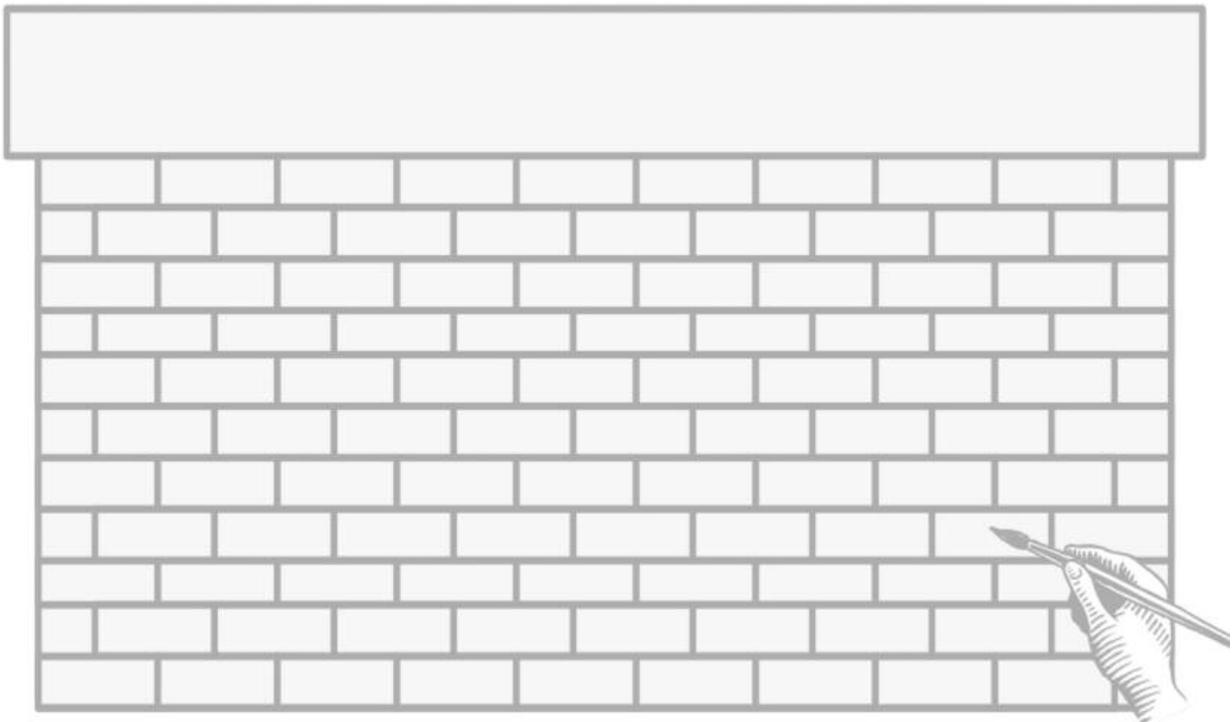
Can you think of other Mexican customs/traditions that we see regularly in the United States?



During the early 20th century Mexico became well known for an important art movement, The Muralist Movement. Three artists, known as “los tres grandes” (the Big Three), are considered leaders of the mural movement in Mexico. The muralists, Jose Clemente Orozco, Diego Rivera, and David Alfaro Siqueiros,

worked together to create art with important messages for the community. This art was created on a grand scale and often filled entire walls of buildings. Themes of the murals ranged from the conquest of Mexico by the Spanish to the modern lives of everyday peoples. The tradition of painting large public murals in government spaces continues to this day in Mexico.

How can art be used to share information and tell stories? Imagine that you are a mural artist and you want to paint a mural for the community. Draw the picture on the wall below. Are there people in your mural? Who are the people? What is the story you want to tell? What message does it send?



Central America



Central America is located in the southernmost region of North America. Central America consists of seven countries: Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama.

The terrain is comprised of rugged mountains, volcanoes, tropical rain forests, and palm-lined beaches. The geographical landscape has directly influenced the economy and commercial trade. Many food items we consume on a regular basis are imported from Central America. Beef, rice, corn, and plantains are all important food groups in Central America. Corn is a dietary staple in the area and is used to make tortillas, tamales, and

beverages. Corn was so important to the indigenous peoples, before the arrival of the Spanish, that in Mayan mythology man and woman were created from two corn kernels. It was seen as a life-giving element. Due to its rich soil from local volcanos, the region has also become a center of coffee production.

Trade between the United States and Latin America has been important for a few centuries. However, transportation of goods around the continent provided some challenges for early merchants. Travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean required sailors to navigate the length of the two continents and journey around Cape Horn, at the tip of South America.



This voyage often proved very dangerous. In 1914, The Panama Canal was opened as easy passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The Canal quickly became one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world because it saved so much time and distance (7,872 miles) by avoiding the trip around South America. The Panama Canal was controlled by the United States until it was handed over to the government of Panama at the end of the 20th century.

Trade occurs daily between the United States and Central America. What are some resources that each region might trade with each other?

Central America

The United States

Ex. Cocoa beans



The Central American region is home to many unique and unusual animals because of its diverse environmental habitats. Match the names to the animals below and then circle those that live in Central American countries.

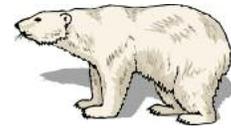
Sloth



Elephant



Toucan



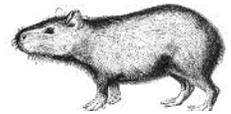
Capybara



Ocelot



Lion



Polar Bear



Jaguar



South America

South America includes 12 sovereign countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela and 2 non-sovereign states: French Guiana and The Falkland Islands.



The environment of South America is one of diversity and extremes. This one continent is home to the world's highest waterfall (Angel Falls in Venezuela), the largest river by water flow (The Amazon River), the longest mountain range (The Andes), the driest place on earth (the Atacama Desert), the largest rainforest (The Amazon), and the highest capital city (La Paz, Bolivia).

Out of the seven continents on Earth, South America is the fourth largest in size, offering plenty of space for unique flora and fauna. The region is home to extraordinary animals such as the llama, anaconda, piranha and tapir. If you visit South America you might even spot one of the world's largest flying land birds, the Andean condor, which has a wingspan of 10 feet!

Like Mexico and Central America, South America was home to great ancient civilizations, including the Inca, prior to Western colonization. Remnants of the Incan empire can still be seen today at sites such as Machu Picchu. Archeologists have studied the site for a century and have several theories regarding its purpose, but there remains some mystery surrounding its history. The site of Machu Picchu is so special and important that it was made one of the Seven New Wonders of the World in 2007.

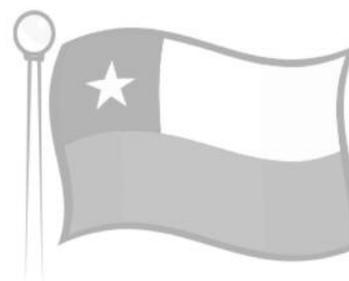
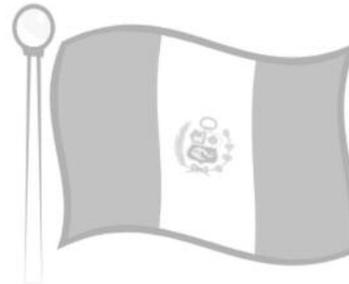
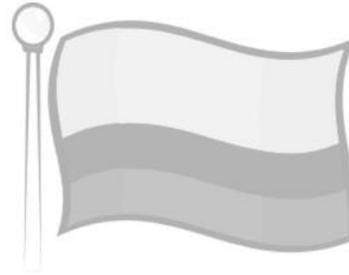
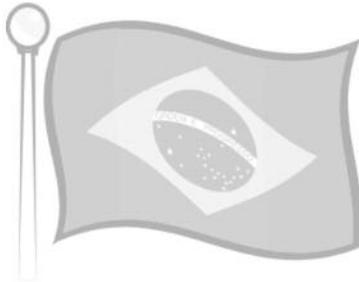


Archeologists have made great discoveries all over the world, including South America. Imagine you are an archeologist exploring the Amazon Rainforest or the Andes Mountains in search of a lost community. Describe your findings. Name at least five items you think you might discover.



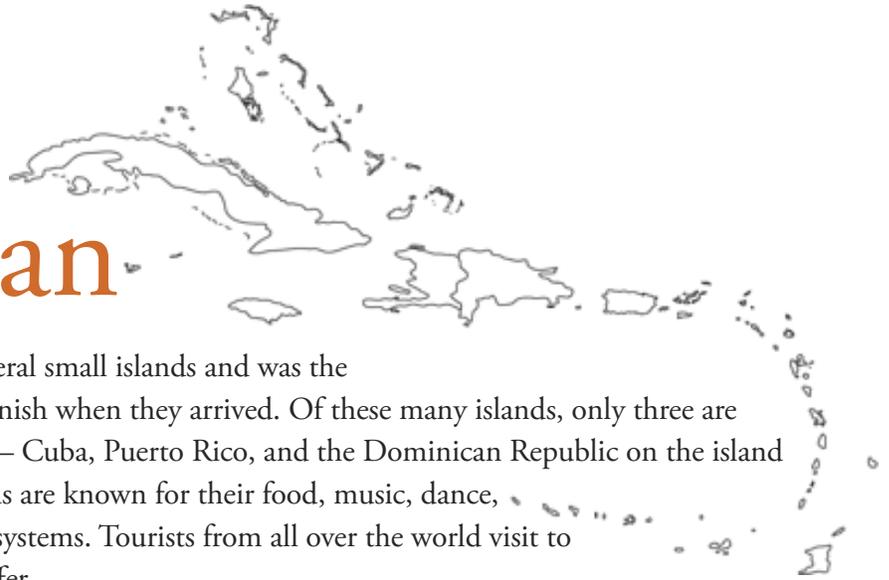
Similar to its environment, South America is a melting pot of cultures. Languages spoken include Spanish, Portuguese, English, Dutch, French and many indigenous languages such as Aymara, Quechua and Guarani. The diversity of music and dance also reflect the various cultures. Samba from Brazil, tango from Argentina & Uruguay, and cumbia from Colombia are all practiced and celebrated forms of dance. How are your dance moves?

Millions of residents look to the colorful flags that fly inside the borders of South America. Below are the six flags from the six most populous countries in South America. Add color to each flag and guess which country they represent.



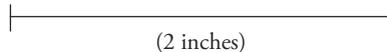
From left to right: Brazil, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, Chile

The Caribbean



The Caribbean is made up of several small islands and was the first land encountered by the Spanish when they arrived. Of these many islands, only three are considered of Hispanic ethnicity – Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic on the island of Hispaniola. The tropical islands are known for their food, music, dance, vibrant culture and beautiful ecosystems. Tourists from all over the world visit to enjoy all that the region has to offer.

Cuba - Cuba is the largest island in the Caribbean Sea, but its land mass is about the same size in area as Pennsylvania. Located just 90 miles south of Florida, Cuba is made up of high mountains, rolling hills and lowland plains. These different ecosystems are home to unique plants and animals found only in Cuba. For example, the island is home to the world's smallest bird, the bee hummingbird. Adult bee hummingbirds grow to only two inches long! Try drawing a 2 inch hummingbird in the space below.



(2 inches)

Hispaniola - The land known as Hispaniola is made up of two countries, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Residents of the Dominican Republic speak Spanish, while the residents of Haiti speak Creole. Although they are neighbors each country has its own unique and rich culture. The island's landscape is made up of mountains, flat coastline and is rich with sea life.

Puerto Rico - The island of Puerto Rico became a territory of the United States in 1898 at the end of the Spanish-American War. As a U.S. territory the official languages of the island are Spanish and English. Although Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens, they cannot vote in presidential elections.



Did you know? El Yunque, in Puerto Rico, is the only tropical rainforest in the U.S. National Forest System.



El Morro Castle, San Juan, Puerto Rico



The tourism industry is very important to the economy of many countries in the Caribbean.

Circle what you think tourists want to see and do when they visit the Caribbean islands.

Visit beaches

Snorkel

Go on a Safari

Explore the forests

Skiing

Climb mountains

Ice Skating

Sailing

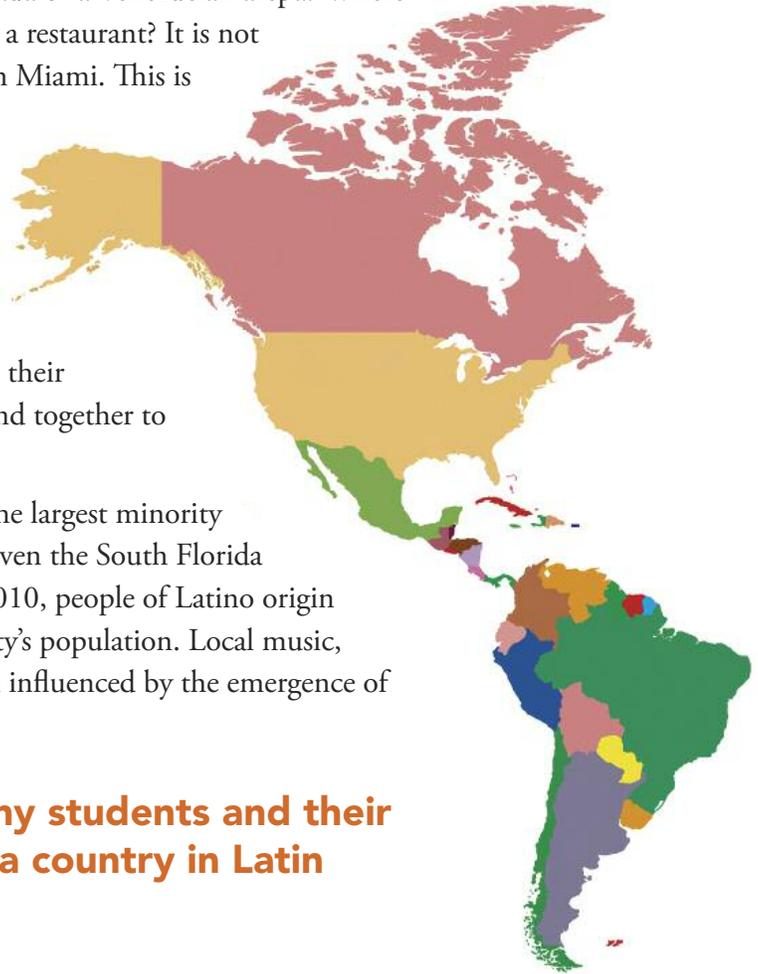
Bird Watching

Latin America and the United States today

Have you ever tasted a Colombian empanada or a Venezuelan arepa? Where did you have it? Was it in your house or at a restaurant? It is not hard to find these different types of food in Miami. This is because Miami is the “gateway city” to the Americas. Many people from Latin American countries come to Miami to visit or settle. The United States, especially Miami, is a place made up mostly of immigrants. When people immigrate to Miami they bring with them their customs and traditions. These cultures blend together to create Miami’s diverse society.

In the United States, Hispanics make up the largest minority group. Latin American immigration has given the South Florida region its unique cultural identity. As of 2010, people of Latino origin accounted for 65% of Miami-Dade County’s population. Local music, dance, art, food, and religion have all been influenced by the emergence of these cultures in our area.

Survey your class. How many students and their families are originally from a country in Latin America?



List three ways that Hispanic culture has had a direct impact on South Florida’s community:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Try to imagine what life is like for immigrants: new language, new schools, and new jobs. What day-to-day problems might they face? How might their lifestyles change? Use the interview form below to find out more about someone who has migrated from Latin America or the Caribbean and share it with your classmates.



Interview Worksheet

Person's Name _____

Country of Birth _____

Immigration Date _____

Arrival location in USA _____

Reasons for Immigration _____

First Impressions upon Arrival _____

How is the United States different from country of birth?

History Challenge

Circle the correct answer.

1. A map is used for _____.
 - a. Plotting routes
 - b. Finding your way somewhere
 - c. a & b
2. The land that Christopher Columbus first encountered was
 - a. Brazil
 - b. Mexico
 - c. The Bahamas
3. The following cultures are responsible for constructing pyramids in Mexico and Central America.
 - a. Aztec and Maya
 - b. Egyptians
 - c. Inca
4. The Panama Canal is important because it helps sailors avoid _____.
 - a. The Bermuda Triangle
 - b. Cape Horn
 - c. The Gulf Stream
5. The region that connects North America and South America is known as
 - a. Central America
 - b. Middle America
 - c. Mexico
6. Today, Hispanics make up the largest minority group in the United States.
 - a. True
 - b. False
7. Cuba is home to the world's smallest _____.
 - a. Llama
 - b. Hummingbird
 - c. Toucan

Put the following events in chronological order

- a. _____ Machu Picchu named World Wonder
- b. _____ Control of Panama Canal handed to government of Panama
- c. _____ Mexican Muralist Movement
- d. _____ 65% of Miami-Dade County's population documented as being of Latino origin
- e. _____ Hernando (Hernán) Cortes encounters Aztec civilization
- f. _____ Christopher Columbus "discovered" the New World
- g. _____ Puerto Rico becomes a U.S. territory



Latin America Fun Facts

- Latin America is the most urbanized region in the world, with about 80% of its population living in cities.
- Peru is home to over 3 million alpacas. Though similar, the alpaca is not to be confused with the llama. Alpacas are bred for their wool, whereas the much larger llama is a beast of burden.
 - The largest lake in Central America, Lake Nicaragua, is home to freshwater sharks.
 - Oil, a valuable natural resource, was discovered in Venezuela in the early 20th century.
 - The world's largest single dish telescope is located in Puerto Rico. The Arecibo Telescope has been used to make several discoveries about our solar system.
 - The total amount of different plant and animal species that are found in Ecuador, which is roughly the size of Nevada, rivals the amount found in all of North America!

a. 6 b. 5 c. 4 d. 7 e. 2 f. 1 g. 3

Hours

Tuesday - Friday **10 am to 5 pm**

Saturday - Sunday **12 pm to 5 pm**

General Admission

HistoryMiami Members **FREE**

Adults **\$8**

Seniors and Students (with ID) **\$7**

Children (6-12) **\$5**

HistoryMiami Members & Children under 6 **FREE**

Contact Information

305-375-1492

www.historymiami.org



Directions

HistoryMiami is located in the Miami-Dade Cultural Center, 101 West Flagler Street, Downtown Miami.

If traveling north on I-95, exit onto NW 2nd St. Turn right onto NW 2nd St. and then right onto NW 2nd Ave. for one block.

If traveling south on I-95, exit at Orange Bowl/NW 8th St. Turn left onto NW 2nd St. and then turn right onto NW 2nd Ave.

Parking is available at the Miami-Dade Cultural Center Parking Garage, 50 NW 2nd Ave. For discounted parking, tickets can be validated at the front desk in the lobby.

Buses – Buses can drop off/pick up visitors on the Flagler Street side of the Cultural Plaza.

Metrorail/Metromover – Exit at Government Center Station, walk across NW 1st St. and go up the stairs on the north side of the Miami-Dade Cultural Plaza, or use the ramp on the south side.

Family Fun Days
Every Second Saturday of the Month
Noon to 5pm, FREE
Music, art, storytelling and more!

HistoryMiami, a Smithsonian Affiliate, is the museum committed to gathering, organizing, preserving, and celebrating Miami's history as the unique crossroads of the Americas. We accomplish this through education, research, collections, exhibitions, city tours and publications. HistoryMiami advocates for helping everyone understand the importance of the past in shaping Miami's future.

The HistoryMiami Education Center is committed to serving South Florida's students, teachers, and adult learners through dynamic and innovative programs which promote critical thinking while creating an open environment to share and interpret our community's stories.

Our mission is to share and interpret Miami's stories through meaningful and dynamic educational programs while providing positive visitor experiences.