Essential skills

Global Literacy

Madison Davis

My freshman year of high school I did a Latin America project for my World studies class. The project involved picking a topic from the Latin American culture and writing an essay on it, as well as presenting your project at the Latin American fair we had at our school. Of course, being the freshman that I was, I tried to pick an easy topic. I chose to do my project on Piñatas, but little did I know I would be leaning a lot more than I thought I would have about the Latin American culture. I leaned who created the piñata, when they use the piñatas, and why they use them and it opened my mind up to other cultural things about Latin Americans. I made my own piñata and a presentation for my project to present at the fair. My presentation at the fair went very well and I got a B on the project. I think I took a lot from the Latin American project, including a well-known appreciation for different cultures and it gave me a passion to learn more about them.

The Latin American project gave me a global perspective about historical cultures from the Latin American community. I gained knowledge of the diverse, linguistic, and artistic side of Latin American culture by studying about them; this includes reading books and articles about the subject of my project. Another thing I did was create my own piñata, which gave me a chance to show off my artistic side but still staying in the Latin American culture by using curtain beads and patterns. The most interesting thing I learned about piñatas is that animal shaped piñatas are banned in some places because people believe its animal cruelty. I’m very thankful for this project because it’s opened my mind to new ideas and feeling about different cultures and I am proud I go to a school that teaches a number of different things, not only about our country, but about other too.