

Connections

Optional Student Activities Employing the Five C's of World Language Learning
Based on the Traveler's Passport to the Caribbean, Central, and South America

- A. (Connecting Latin American geography with mathematical skills)** As a government agricultural official you are responsible to determine which of the three Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries (pp. 4-22) of Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico should receive agricultural financial support to learn mini-farming techniques on small plots of land. To accomplish this, select the three Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries (Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico) to choose from and calculate the population density per square mile or per square kilometer for each country. Next, consider these countries one at a time, evaluating their population densities since high populations require more food, locations and nearness to other countries from which they may be able to import food (See the map on pages 32-33.), as well as any other factors that you believe are important. Afterward, construct a poster displaying a graph of the population density for each of the three countries as well as other reasons supporting your choice of country to receive the grant. Present the poster to your classmates and teacher in Spanish and be able to answer any of their questions when you present your conclusions.
- B. (Connecting Latin American food and art through language)** In the 'Traditional Cuisine' pages for the Caribbean (p. 22), Central America (p. 29), and South America (p. 43), find a food picture from each of these regions which you believe would qualify as a 'Food as a Work of Art' example for your soon-to-be-published 'Food as a Work of Art Cookbook.' Relying on your knowledge of art, make some connections between the foods you have chosen and their artistic attributes. To do this, rely on characteristics such as color (el color), shape (la forma), texture (la textura), contrast (el contraste), and other artistic terms that you have learned in Spanish. Create a poster with a drawing or picture of the three foods and then add relevant Spanish art terms next to the pictures. Enjoy presenting your poster to your fellow students and teacher.
- C. (Connecting newly gained knowledge about Latin America with knowledge about U.S. states)** All descriptions of Latin American countries included in the 'Traveler's Passport' contain a trivia statement (above the pictures) which expresses a unique fact about the country. For each of the three regions: the Caribbean (pp. 4-22), Central America (pp. 25-33), and South America (pp. 34-43), select the two trivia statements that are the most interesting to you. Next, for each of the six trivia statements, find six facts about U.S. states that would create a connection or similarity. Mount the facts on a poster board and present your information in Spanish, of course!