

DOLORES HUERTA DAY

April 10th

Teacher's Guide & K-8 Lesson Plans

www.doloreshuerta.org



Dolores Huerta. © Glamour Magazine Women of the Year, October 13, 2020.
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**DOLORES
HUERTA
FOUNDATION**
FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZING



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RESEARCH CENTER
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Teacher's **Guide to** **Dolores Huerta Day** Lesson Plans (K-8)



*Dolores Huerta Speaks at United Farm Workers (UFW) Rally.
Photo courtesy © Cathy Murphy, used with permission.*

Dolores Huerta is a labor leader and community organizer. She has worked for civil rights and social justice for over 60 years. She attributes her passion for community organizing and building leadership to being an active member of the Girl Scouts from age eight to eighteen years old. Dolores grew up in a richly diverse community, which has shaped her activism for decades.

She met community organizer Fred Ross (1910-1992) in 1955. Ross founded the Community Service Organization (CSO) and inspired Huerta in the founding of the Stockton Chapter of the CSO. They utilized the “house meeting” model to civically engage members of its underserved community and to provide direct services to those in need. During the early years of CSO, she met Cesar Chavez who was organizing for the CSO in San Jose, California. In 1962, Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez founded the United Farm Workers union. She served as Vice President and played a critical role in many of the union’s accomplishments for four decades.

She was the first Latina inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame in 1993. In 2002, she received the Puffin/Nation \$100,000 prize for Creative Citizenship which she used to establish the Dolores Huerta Foundation. She has received numerous awards and accolades during her life, among them The Eleanor D. Roosevelt Humans Rights Award from President Clinton in 1999. In 2012 President Obama bestowed Dolores Huerta with The Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the United States. She was also the first Latina and only living individual to have her portrait hung in the National Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C. in 2015. She also received the Ohtli Award from the Mexican Government, one of the highest awards given to individuals outside of Mexico.

On July 18, 2018, Governor Jerry Brown of California signed Assembly Bill 2644, designating April 10th as Dolores Huerta Day. Assemblymember Eloise Reyes (AD-47) introduced the bill. Civil rights leader and community organizer, Dolores Huerta, is the first and only living person to hold this honor.

Dolores Huerta believes everyone has the power to be involved in their community, activism, and changing the world for the better. When communities work together, they can accomplish so much. We hope you enjoy learning about Dolores Huerta and her rich legacy.

Purpose of Lesson Plans

A committee of educators came together to design lesson plans that feature Dolores Huerta's work and advance her legacy. These educators created lesson plans for grades K-8 based on California State Standards. The Instructor's Guide provides teachers with an organized way to access these teaching materials to introduce students to civil rights activist Dolores Huerta and learn from her example as a social justice leader for the last 60+ years. The lesson plans focus on how to identify and solve community problems using Dolores Huerta's exceptional history as a guiding light.

Lesson Plans Format

The educational resources are separated into grade-level folders accordingly. We encourage you to look in other folders for inspiration. The lesson plans include links to additional resources as well as necessary graphic organizers, vocabulary lists, and photos to supplement the educational experience. In the Additional Resources folder, there is a spreadsheet with a list of books, audio, videos, and other resources for use by K-8 grade level.

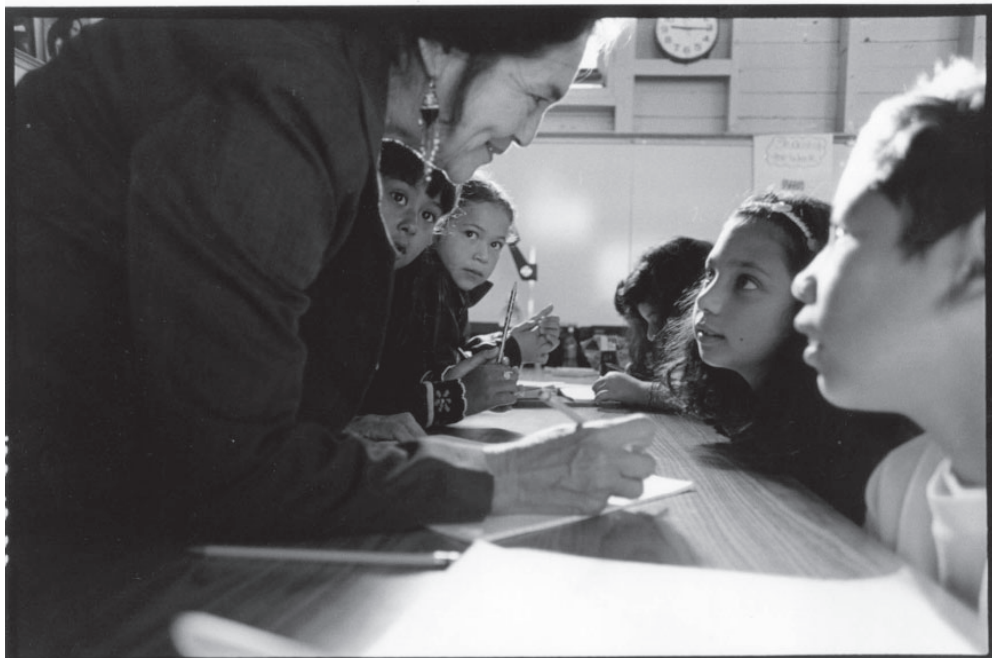
About Photos and Art in the Lesson Plans:

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Dolores with students. Photo courtesy © David Bacon, used with permission.

Overview of Lesson Plans

A brief description of the contents of each grade-level folder is listed below. All lesson plans can be accessed at <https://doloreshuerta.org/lesson-plans/>.

Kinder/1st Grade

1. Kinder Dolores Huerta: A Leader for Justice lesson plan (5-day unit)

2. Kinder Dolores Huerta: A Leader for Justice lesson plan (SPANISH)

This lesson plan provides a 5-day unit for either Kinder or 1st grade students exploring the question “How do people work together to solve problems and struggle to implement solutions?” by exploring the life and experiences of civil rights icon Dolores Huerta. Students will read books about Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez, gain awareness and understanding of the working conditions of farmworkers, and learn about how to solve problems in your community. This lesson plan unit is available in English and Spanish.

3. 1st Grade Dolores Huerta: A Leader for Justice lesson plan (5-day unit)

4. 1st Grade Dolores Huerta: A Leader for Justice lesson plan (SPANISH)

This lesson plan provides a 5-day unit for either Kinder or 1st grade students exploring the question “How do people work together to solve problems and struggle to implement solutions?” by exploring the life and experiences of civil rights icon Dolores Huerta. Students will read books about Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez, gain awareness and understanding of the working conditions of farmworkers, and learn about how to solve problems in your community. This lesson plan unit is available in English and Spanish.

2nd Grade

1. 2nd Grade Whose Story, Whose History: The Example of Dolores Huerta lesson plan (2-day unit)

In this lesson, students will investigate the complexity and consequences of writing history by exploring the life and work of Dolores Huerta. This lesson includes a culminating Socratic Seminar assessment, where students will demonstrate their learning on the history and work of Dolores Huerta.

2. 2nd Grade Side by Side: A History of Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez (SPANISH)

3rd Grade

1. 3rd Grade Dolores Huerta Activist lesson plan (5-day unit with student text handout)

2. 3rd Grade Dolores Huerta Activist lesson plan (SPANISH)

Third grade students continue preparing to become active and responsible citizens of their communities, of California, and the United States. In this 5-day unit, students focus on developing and understanding citizenship, civic engagement, and the basic structure of government, by exploring the life and work of Dolores Huerta who took risks to secure freedoms. This lesson plan includes a student text handout outlining the life and work of Dolores Huerta. This lesson plan unit is available in English and Spanish.

3. How the yes appeared in “Yes, we can!” (play script)

4. Cómo apareció el Sí en “¡Sí se puede!”

This play script by Wendy Greenfield tells the story of the origin of Dolores Huerta’s famous phrase “Sí, se puede!” The play can be integrated into a lesson plan or used on its own. The script is available in English and Spanish.

5. Dolores Huerta 3rd-4th Grade Vocabulary

A PDF of a slide presentation that includes vocabulary words in English and Spanish that are relevant to the life and work of Dolores Huerta. This slide deck can be used in a lesson plan or on its own and can be expanded upon for relevancy to the classroom developmental level and context.





Dolores Huerta (3rd from right) with her Girl Scout Troop, circa 1947. Her mother, Alicia Chavez (5th from right), served as the troop volunteer. Photo courtesy © Lori de León, used with permission.

4th Grade

1. 4th Grade Dolores Huerta lesson plan (5-day unit)

This lesson plan provides a 5-day unit for 4th Grade students examining the question “How do people work together to solve problems and struggle to implement solutions?” by exploring the life and experiences of civil rights icon Dolores Huerta. The lesson plan provides resources for books, printed articles, and videos in order for students to gain awareness and understanding of the working conditions of farmworkers and Dolores Huerta’s activism, and presents students with the opportunity to identify and take action towards addressing an issue in their own community.

2. How the yes appeared in “Yes, we can!” (play script)

3. Cómo apareció el Sí en “¡Sí se puede!”

This play script by Wendy Greenfield tells the story of the origin of Dolores Huerta’s famous phrase “Sí, se pueda!” The play can be integrated into a lesson plan or used on its own. The script is available in English and Spanish.

4. Dolores Huerta 3rd-4th Grade Vocabulary

A PDF of a slide presentation that includes vocabulary words in English and Spanish that are relevant to the life and work of Dolores Huerta. This slide deck can be used in a lesson plan or on its own and can be expanded upon for relevancy to the classroom developmental level and context.

5th/6th Grade

1. 5th/6th Grade Dolores Huerta lesson plan

This lesson plan provides a 5-day unit for 5th or 6th grade students examining the question “What is the problem? How can we work together to create a just/fair solution?” by exploring the life and experiences of civil rights icon Dolores Huerta. The lesson plan provides resources for vocabulary words, books, printed articles, and videos in order for students to gain awareness and understanding of the working conditions of farmworkers and Dolores Huerta’s activism that will culminate in an assignment to write an opinion piece or argumentative essay.

7th/8th Grade

1. 7th/8th Grade Dolores Huerta as an Activist lesson plan

This lesson plan provides a 2-day unit in which students will read and analyze some of Dolores Huerta’s speeches, quotes and interviews through different forms of media, and determine how her words helped inspire change. It includes a graphic organizer and a handout of famous quotes from Dolores Huerta.

2. 7th/8th Grade Dolores Huerta LP (Micrography self-portrait)

This lesson plan provides a 2-day unit in which students will analyze the life of Dolores Huerta through different forms of media and text and determine what key factors help shape Dolores Huerta’s values and beliefs. Projects in this lesson plan include creating a micrography self-portrait and identifying actions that align with their values and beliefs.

Additional Resources

- List of Books, Audio, and Videos for K-8
- Reference List for Lesson Plans, K-8



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Acknowledgements

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A black and white photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. She is holding a large, dark rectangular sign above her head with both arms. The sign has the word "ORGANIZE" written on it in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. The woman has a determined expression on her face.

ORGANIZE

The Dolores Huerta Foundation passionately advocates for social justice, focusing on empowering marginalized communities through grassroots organizing, civic engagement, and education initiatives. To learn more go to www.doloreshuerta.org

