

COLORING & COLLAGE
ACTIVITY - SAMPLE



SYMBOLS AND ELEMENTS



Candlesticks

Candlesticks are symbolic of light and celebrating holidays and religious traditions with family. Some women would trade single candlesticks with one another before they left their homeland to preserve memories of friends and families: one taken to the new place and one left behind.



Coffee Grinder

Serving tea or coffee is a tradition practiced to welcome guests and neighbors into one's home. Coffee grinders were also used to make sweet rice pudding - a common snack for children. Cookware and housewares can remind one of the smells, tastes, and traditions of home.



Typewriter

In 1938 Marion Stiebel Siciliano's family fled Nazi Germany and moved to Italy. Marion's mother brought a typewriter so that she could find work as a typist when they arrived in their new country. The Stiebels traveled from Germany to Portugal to France, and then eventually to the United States. Marion kept her items with her so she would always remember the journey from Germany to America. Tools of trade can help one find work to make a living in one's new home.



Textiles, Embroidery, Huipil

Huipil pronounced: "wē'pēl" or "wee-peel"

Textiles, traditional clothing, and embroidery play a significant role across cultures and throughout time. Huipiles are worn by indigenous people to represent their ethnic identity. The designs include symbols representing the history, cultural identity, and personal information about the wearer.



Seedpot

Native Americans made hand-made clay pots with designs that referenced mountains, rivers, and landscapes. These pots were used to store seeds over the winter, to plant the following year. They also contained the hopes and prayers for prosperity for the year.



Mixtape and Music

Music and recordings of oral histories can remind us of home, specific memories, times, and places. Music is critical in defining who we are, and how we determine our identities. It is often a tool to communicate emotions, beliefs, and abstractions that may not have been available otherwise. Music is valued and represented throughout cultures around the world.









