

# Día de los Muertos

## Whirligig

The Hispanic holiday of **Día de los Muertos**, or **Day of the Dead**, takes place during the first two days of November. While the holiday's observances include spending time in cemeteries, making shrines to the dead, and displaying skull and skeleton decorations, the occasion is joyful, rather than scary.

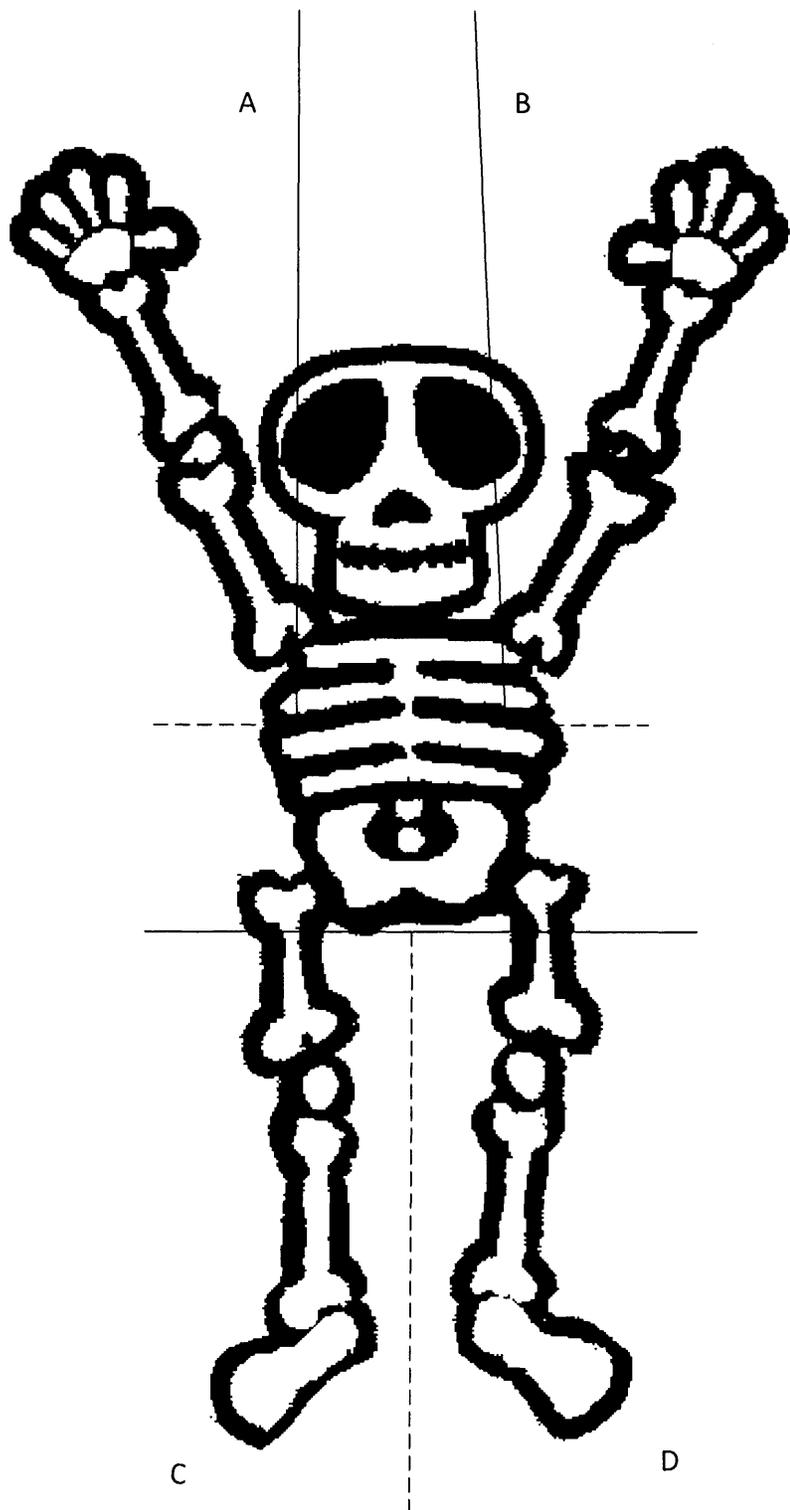
**Whirligig** is a name used to describe anything that continuously whirls, moves, or changes. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century (1800s,) people used this word to describe children's wind-up motion toys.

*Make a whirligig and give it a twirl!*

### Directions:

1. Cut out the skeleton shape.
2. Cut the dotted lines.
3. Fold flap A and flap B back. They should fold on top of each other.
4. Place a paper clip or piece of tape at the bottom of the A-B fold.
5. Bend blade C away from blade D in opposite directions.
6. Throw the Whirligig in the air and watch what happens!

Does your whirligig turn clockwise or counterclockwise? Switch and fold blades C and D the other way. Now which way does it twirl? Try different blade lengths and widths to experiment with aerodynamics (the study of objects moving through air.)



Blade C and D folded  
in opposite directions.

