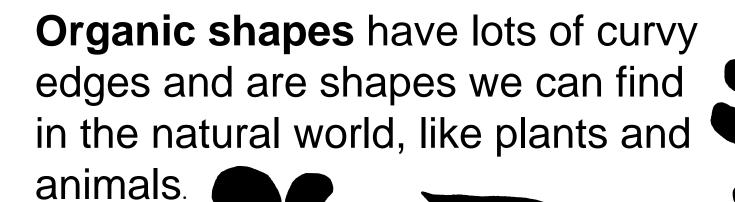




Organic



National Hispanic Heritage Month

(September 15 to October 15)

From mid-September through mid-October, America recognizes the contributions, culture, and heritage of Hispanic Americans.





The traditions and experiences of Hispanic Americans help make the United States a diverse and exciting place to live.

Caxacan Wood Carving



Mexican Folk Art



- Oaxaca is a valley in the southern Mexican State of Oaxaca.
- Wood carvings made in the Oaxaca Valley are a form of Mexican folk art.

The imaginary

 animals carved out
 of wood and painted
 by the Zapotec
 Indians of the
 Oaxaca Valley are
 called alebrijes.





- The artists carry branches of a special kind of tree down from the mountains everyday, to use for their carving.
- The ideas for the alebrijes come from the imaginations and superstitions of the artists.

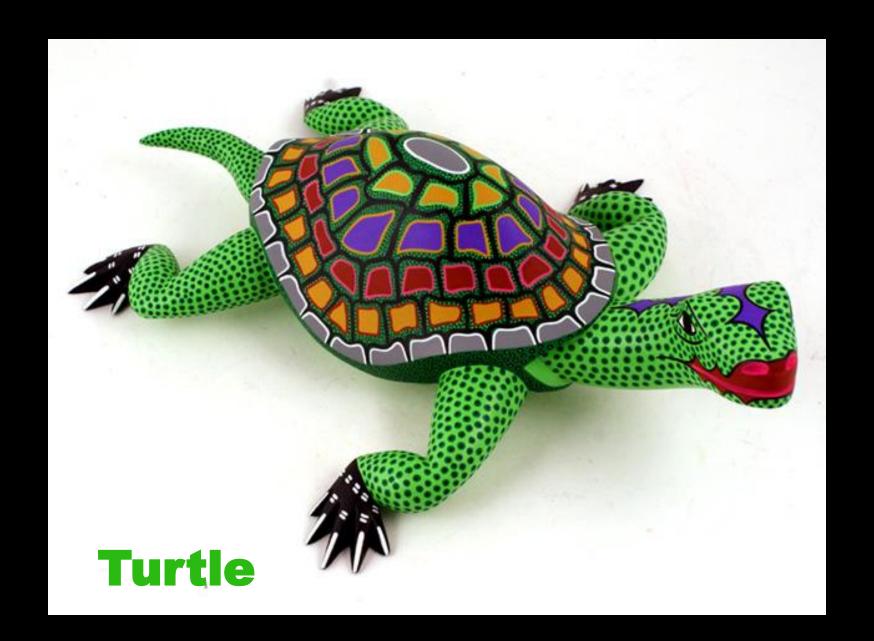
- Myth and magic are a large part of the daily life of the Zapotec Indians.
- The alebrijes are usually carved by men, and then painted with bright colors by women.



















Vocabulary

- Oaxaca: a valley in the southern Mexican State of Oaxaca.
- Folk art: artwork created by a culture, or group of people, who have not been trained to be artists.
- Alebrijes: brightly colored sculptures of imaginary animals.
- Form: 3-dimensional shapes.
- Repetition: lines, shapes, colors which are repeated to make a pattern.

Resources

http://www.oaxacafinecarvings.com

http://www.vivaoaxacafolkart.com

http://oaxaca-travel.com