LatinExplorers 2:
A Hispanic Heritage Journey



EDUCATOR GUIDE

This Educator Guide includes:

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Acknowledgements

Minecraft Education, in partnership with the Hispanic Heritage Foundation, strives to provide students with a diverse skill set that transcends classroom learning, preparing them for professional achievements and proactive civic roles. Through the LatinExplorers 2 series, we underscore the pivotal contributions of Hispanic leaders, aligning with the HHF's objective of fostering community growth. LatinExplorers 2 offers a captivating one-hour experience for students aged 8-18, illuminating the remarkable stories of Latina pioneers in creativity, STEM, and social justice. This Educator Guide propels discussions on diversity and inclusion, spotlighting the feats of Hispanic innovators.

Let's celebrate the great leadership and impact of the Hispanic culture—may their stories inspire and empower all to be a pillar of change!

How to Get Started

- Learn about LatinExplorers 2: A Hispanic Heritage Journey with this video: https://aka.ms/ LatinExplorers 2Trailer
- Use this Educator Guide!
- Play through LatinExplorers 2 to get a better understanding of the lesson and how to navigate through the Minecraft world.

Not a teacher? No problem! We want you to help you celebrate the achievements of Hispanic leaders too! Use this https://aka.ms/ LatinExplorers 2FamilyCommunityToolkit to find a different version of these materials, intended to support a more community-focused conversation.

LatinExplorers 2— Theme Overview

Come join us and become a pillar of change!

LatinExplorers 2 is specifically designed to showcase powerful narratives of women changemakers who have overcome adversity to not only transform their own lives but have dedicated their lives to uplifting others. Their stories provide a roadmap of resilience, creativity, and leadership that can guide young people in becoming innovative problem solvers and future leaders.

Meet Your Guide: Antonio Tijerino

Jose Antonio Tijerino is president and CEO of the Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF), a national non-profit focused on education, workforce, social impact, and culture

through innovative leadership. HHF, under Tijerino's leadership, is recognized as a creative, agile, impact-focused organization recognized by the White House, US Congress, Fortune 500 companies, other non-profits and the Government of Mexico. Tijerino is also executive producer of the Hispanic Heritage Awards at the Kennedy Center, which are broadcast on PBS.

LatinExplorers 2 Game Play

After players complete a Minecraft tutorial, the journey will start at the beautiful Plaza of Possibilities, where players meet Antonio Tijerino, the president and CEO of the Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF). He will introduce himself, explain the objective of the lesson, and then lead players into the world.

In this lesson, players will have the opportunity to explore three areas, where they will meet distinguished game changers and Latina leaders, who will narrate their stories and provide inspiration for how players can also positively contribute to their communities. In each of these areas, students will perform tasks and activities that reinforce the ability to make changes in their own worlds. They can explore the areas of:

- **Gloria Estefan** - a Cuban American singer, songwriter, actress, and businesswoman known for her pop and Latin music. Beyond her successful music career, Estefan has become a symbol of the Latino community in the US and has received numerous awards. Her songs and life are a powerful anthem for resilience and determination.
- **Dr. Ellen Ochoa** - a retired American astronaut, engineer, and the first Hispanic woman to go to space, serving on four Space Shuttle missions for NASA. After her astronaut career, she served as the director of the Johnson Space Center, making significant contributions to space exploration and serving as a role model for women and the Hispanic community in STEM fields.
- **Monica Ramirez** - a highly respected social activist and attorney known for her tireless work advocating for the rights of migrant and farmworker women, especially in the context of gender discrimination. She is the founder of Justice for Migrant Women, an organization that seeks to advance the civil and human rights of migrant women and their families, and she has been instrumental in raising awareness of the migrant women's rights movement within the agricultural industry.

Learning Objectives

Essential Question:
"How have influential Latina women, like Gloria Estefan, Ellen Ochoa, and Monica Ramirez, intersected arts, science, and advocacy to demonstrate courage, compassion, and leadership in shaping Hispanic history and culture, and what can we learn from their resilience and advocacy to inspire our own paths?"

- I will explore the central themes and narratives of the struggles, accomplishments, and resilience of influential Latina women in history and culture.
- I will identify key figures like Gloria Estefan, Ellen Ochoa, and Monica Ramirez, understanding their contributions to Hispanic history, arts, science, advocacy, and their influence on American society.
- I will articulate how these Latina women demonstrated courage, compassion, unity, and leadership, emphasizing the importance of family, community support, and perseverance.
- I will delve into the advocacy for social justice, particularly through Monica Ramirez's work, and appreciate the power of collective action and advocacy in society.
- I will consider ways in which the intersection of arts, science, and advocacy can inspire my own leadership and service, aiming to positively impact my community and the world at large.

Guiding Ideas and Background Information

- Begin with an introduction to Hispanic history and culture, setting the stage for a deeper dive into the lives of Gloria Estefan, Ellen Ochoa, and Monica Ramirez.

- Encourage students to reflect on the importance of family, community support, and perseverance in achieving success.

- Highlight how Estefan, Ochoa, and Ramirez represent different sectors (music, science, and advocacy) and how their contributions impacted culture.

- Encourage students to relate the stories of these influential women to their own lives.

Gloria Estefan:

1. **Official Website**: Gloria Estefan's Official Website.
2. **Biography.com**: Gloria Estefan Biography.
3. **Britannica**: Encyclopedia Britannica's page on Gloria Estefan.

Ellen Ochoa:

1. **NASA**: NASA Biography of Ellen Ochoa.
2. **Biography.com**: Ellen Ochoa Biography.
3. **Britannica**: Encyclopedia Britannica's page on Ellen Ochoa.

Mónica Ramírez:

1. **Justice for Migrant Women**: Mónica Ramírez's profile
2. **Time**: Time's feature on Mónica Ramírez.
3. **Equal Pay Today**: Mónica Ramírez's bio.

Lesson Activities

Overview of the Activities

Introduction Set the Purpose for Learning	Say: "*Welcome to an exciting new Minecraft experience— LatinExplorers 2: A Hispanic Heritage Journey. In this world, you will get to learn about how the Hispanic culture has enriched and continues to enrich our lives.*"
Introduction Important Vocabulary	Say: "*The words Hispanic, Latino, Latina, and Latinx are used to describe Hispanic/Latin people. These words are often used interchangeably. What is the difference between all these terms?*"
Introduction Areas for Exploration	Explain to students that they will working on LatinExplorers 2: 2 A Hispanic Heritage Journey in Minecraft Education today. During this experience, their goal is to learn about the contributions of some incredible Hispanic leaders. Through their stories, we will recognize the importance of the Hispanic culture and how the leadership of these individuals created meaningful change.
Tutorial Sequence Navigation in Minecraft	Students will select their mode of play based on the
Start the Minecraft Map The Hub	Students will press the button to begin the map. They will move through the door and be greeted by Antonio Tijerino, who leads the Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF). Students will follow Antonio to the Hub, the central location of this Minecraft world. Students will have the opportunity to explore the three portals.

There are two options on how to continue LatinExplorers 2: A Hispanic Heritage Journey.

- **Option 1**: You can continue to work through the world as a guided experience (i.e., follow the slide presentation and model/demonstrate as needed). This option is recommended for younger students, who may need additional support in fully understanding the concepts.

- **Option 2**: You can release students to work independently on exploring the areas. Once they have finished completing the areas for exploration, you can regroup as a class to discuss the experience, address the reflection questions, and consider ways to extend the learning.

Area: Gloria Estefan	Gloria Estefan's life and career are a testament to resilience and determination. In 1990, she suffered a severe bus accident that left her with serious injuries, including a fractured spine. However, she fought her way back to the stage and continued her music career, showcasing her unwavering determination to pursue her passion. This aspect of her journey underscores how culture and creativity can serve as sources of strength and motivation during challenging times.
Area: Ellen Ochoa	Dr. Ochoa's remarkable journey from being an engineer to becoming an astronaut and director of the Johnson Space Center makes her a powerful role model for women and underrepresented minorities in STEM fields. Her accomplishments have encouraged and motivated others from similar backgrounds to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. By being a catalyst for diversity, Dr. Ochoa has helped to foster a more inclusive and dynamic scientific community**.**
Area: Monica Ramirez	Monica Ramirez's work centers on empowering marginalized voices within the agricultural industry. By amplifying the voices of migrant and farmworker women, she helps break down cultural barriers that may have silenced or marginalized them. Her efforts enable these women to speak out against injustices and advocate for their civil rights.
Closing Activity: Yehimi Cambrón	In this activity, students will meet Yehimi Cambrón, a talented artist who uses murals to communicate ideas, perspectives, and stories to

her local community and with the community at-large. Through her artwork, she tells the stories of the immigrant community and undocumented Americans.

Students will then be able to create their own Minecraft build to showcase their expression in the barrio. Students will also take a screenshot of their build to share.

NOTE FOR EDUCATORS: If you would like and are able to, please share your students' work with us! You can share on social media (Facebook or Twitter). Tag us @PlayCraftLearn and @HHFoundation – include the hashtags # LatinExplorers 2, #MinecraftEDU, #HispanicHeritage so we can celebrate your great work with you!

Reflection & Celebration

After game play has finished, gather students back together to recap their learning and to discuss the **reflection questions.**

1. **Learning About Leaders**: What's one thing you learned from LatinExplorers about an important event in one of the Latina leader's lives?
2. **Describing the Leaders:** What words can we use to talk about the people in LatinExplorers and the things they faced, how strong they were, and what they achieved?
3. **Leadership and Challenges**: What problems did the people in LatinExplorers try to fix? How did they show bravery and kindness?
4. **Helping the Community**: How did the people in LatinExplorers make their communities better? How did they stand up for others?
5. **Helping Your Own Community**: Thinking about the Latina leaders, how can you make a difference in your community?
6. **Showing Leadership**: How can you be a leader and talk more in group chats like the people in LatinExplorers?

7. **Mixing Arts, Science, and Helping**: How did the stories in LatinExplorers combine things like art, science, and helping others to make a change?

Extending the Learning

Students should then be encouraged to extend their learning about the contributions of Hispanic citizens and how they can also be change agents in their own community.

- Research the individuals who were featured in LatinExplorers 2; use the biography handouts (included at the end of this EDU guide) to gather and organize your notes from your research. Then, return to Minecraft: Education Edition and create a Block Biography.
- Create a timeline in Minecraft to document important events in the individuals' lives. Feel free to select an individual featured in LatinExplorers 2 or find another Hispanic individual to highlight.
- Design a 2D/3D book cover in Minecraft to celebrate Hispanic heritage.
- There are several different countries, which are considered Hispanic or Latinx. Check out the different flags of Hispanic nations (e.g., Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, any country in South or Central American, and Spain). Research the imagery and symbolism of these national flags. Then, try creating the flag within Minecraft with this cool Vexillology world in Minecraft!

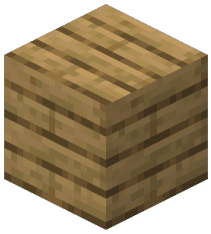
End the learning experience by presenting students with their certification of completion!



MINECRAFT VISUAL GLOSSARY

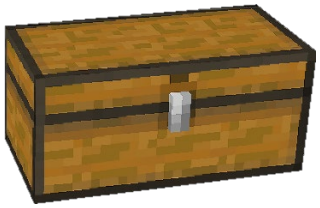
Blocks

the basic units of structure in Minecraft that make up the game's world.



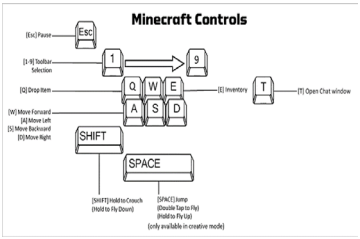
Chest

used to store items outside of your inventory.



Controls

(keyboard)
keyboard buttons that help you move around and complete tasks.



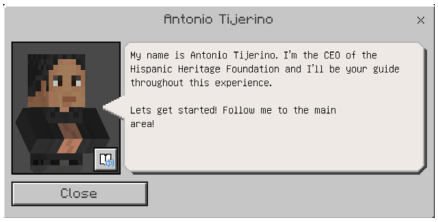
Controls

(touch)
the touch pad that helps you move around and complete tasks.



Dialog

a written conversational exchange between the player and NPC



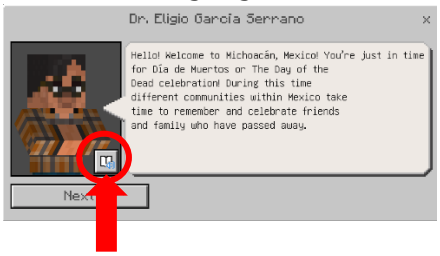
Hotbar

selection bar that appears on the bottom of the screen



Immersive Reader

a tool to help players in reading or translating in-game text.



Inventory

the pop-up menu that the player uses to manage items they carry.



Minecraft: Education Edition

a game-based learning platform



NPC

non-player character



Spawn Point

the location where a player begins game play.



Educational Standards

ISTE Standards

- **1.6.c** Students communicate complex ideas clearly and effectively by creating or using a variety of digital objects such as visualizations, models or simulations.
- **1.7.b** Students use collaborative technologies to work with others, including peers, experts or community members, to examine issues and problems from multiple viewpoints.

UK National Curriculum: Citizenship

Key Stage 3

- the nature of rules and laws and the justice system, including the role of the police and the operation of courts and tribunals
- the roles played by public institutions and voluntary groups in society, and the ways in which citizens work together to improve their communities, including opportunities to participate in school-based activities.

Key Stage 4

- diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding.
- the different ways in which a citizen can contribute to the improvement of his or her community, to include the opportunity to participate actively in community volunteering, as well as other forms of responsible activity.

Australian F-10 Curriculum

Year 7

- How values, including freedom, respect, inclusion, civility, responsibility, compassion, equality and a 'fair go', can promote cohesion within Australian society (ACHCK052)
- How groups, such as religious and cultural groups, express their particular identities; and how this influences their perceptions of others and vice versa (ACHCK053)

Year 8

- How national identity can shape a sense of belonging in Australia's multicultural society (ACHCK067)

Year 9

- How and why individuals and groups, including religious groups, participate in and contribute to civic life (ACKCK079)
- How ideas about and experiences of Australian identity are influenced by global connectedness and mobility.

Student Handouts



Date of Birth

Antonio Tijerino



Three adjectives you would use to describe this person:

_____

_____

_____

Quote

Major Accomplishments

Profession

Interesting Fact

Nationality

Name: _____ Date:

LatinExplorers 2: Build a Biography

Gloria Estefan

Date of Birth

Three adjectives you would use to describe this person:

_____

_____

_____

Quote

Major Accomplishments

Profession

Interesting Fact

Nationality

Name: _____ Date:

LatinExplorers 2: Build a Biography

Date of Birth

Dr. Ellen Ochoa

Three adjectives you would use to describe this person:

_____

_____

_____

Quote

Major Accomplishments

Profession

Interesting Fact

Nationality

Name: _____ Date:

LatinExplorers 2: Build a Biography

Date of Birth

Monica Ramirez

Three adjectives you would use to describe this person:

_____

_____

_____

Quote

Major Accomplishments

Profession

Interesting Fact

Nationality