

P.E.R.U.

Dance Capes



Every September in Sapallanga, Peru, there is a dance festival. The dances are of Indian, Spanish, and African origin, are performed by from 12 to 24 men. The dancers are called *Garibaldis*, after the nineteenth century Italian expatriate who aided Peru's independence from Spain. Each Garibaldi carries an anchor and a bell and wears a dance cape. They are accompanied by drums and a brass band.

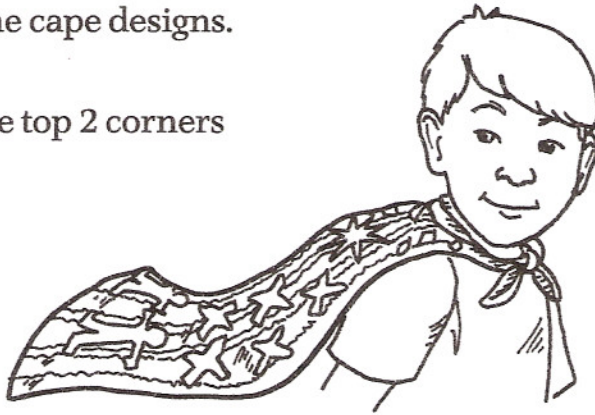
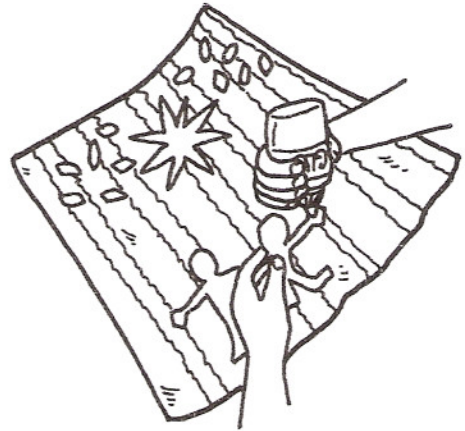
The dance capes themselves are small, not larger than 3 x 3 feet. They have collars and flare out toward the bottom hem, but each has a slightly different shape. They are heavily embroidered with images of historic events from Peru's past.

HOW TO MAKE A Dance Cape

Materials		
• scrap paper	• pencils	• buttons and sequins
• scissors	• fabric glue or white glue	• fabric piece at least 24 x 36 inches for each student
• fabric scraps		

Directions

1. Sketch ideas for special events to celebrate on scrap paper. You can draw pictures of things that really happened, or show imaginary events.
2. Spread out the fabric and imagine how your drawing will cover it.
3. Draw the important shapes from your sketch onto fabric scraps and cut them out.
4. Arrange the fabric shapes on the larger fabric piece. Glue them in place. Let dry.
5. Glue buttons and sequins to the cape designs. Let dry.
6. To wear the cape, simply tie the top 2 corners around your neck.



Follow-up

- With the class, listen to "Land of the Incas," a tape of Peruvian music. Help students identify the instruments. A good source for this tape as well as other multicultural and multilingual materials is Claudia's Caravan, P.O. Box 1582, Alameda, CA 94501, (510) 521-7871.
- Have students share their capes by wearing them in front of the class and taking turns describing the scene on the back.
- Have a parade in which your students wear their dance capes.