

School Tours of America Photo Quest



Puerto Rico!

A photo quest is a scavenger hunt involving photography. Your job is to take photos on your trip of the items listed below and answer the question that accompanies it.

There are just a few things to keep in mind:

- Be aware of your surroundings. Be respectful of other visitors and the sanctity of your location.
- Get creative. Consider unique angles and aspects of your target.
- Enjoy the discovery process. Find something out of the ordinary about your target.

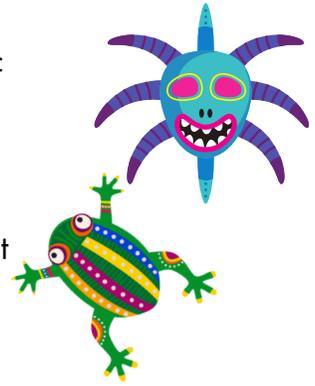
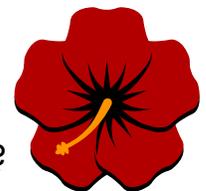


Photo List

- Your Tour Guide: What is his/her name? Where is he/she from?
- A Palm Tree: What grows on a palm tree?
- The Atlantic Ocean: Which side of the island is the Atlantic Ocean?
- The Caribbean Sea: Which side of the island is the Caribbean Sea?
- Puerto Rico flag: What do the colors represent?
- A classmate: What is their favorite part of the trip?
- Food: What is your favorite Puerto Rican meal item?
- Street mural: What does the mural represent?
- Mangrove Cay: What is the purpose of the mangroves?
- A colorful house in Old San Juan: Why do you think the people who built these houses chose so many bright colors?
- Castillo del Morro or San Cristobal: Why do you think this castillo was built in this spot?
- Statue of Christopher Columbus or Ponce de Leon: What is their relationship to Puerto Rico?
- A Samuel Lind art piece: What elements of his work are your favorite?
- Bomba dancer: Why do the dancer and the drummer have to pay close attention to each other in Bomba?
- Waterfall, bamboo, or giant fern in El Yunque: Why do you think it's important to protect places like El Yunque?
- Parque de Bombas: What is significant about this place?
- A chicken or a chango (blackbird): What does "chango" mean?
- You!: What is your favorite thing about Puerto Rico?



Teacher Guide



Critical Thinking & Reflection: Photo Reflection Journals

Have students pick 1–3 of their photos and write about what they show, why they chose them, and what they learned.

Include questions like:

What was happening in this moment? What does this picture tell others about the place we visited? How did this moment make you feel?

Language Arts / Writing: Photo Story or Caption Writing

Students create a fictional or nonfictional story based on a photo they took or write engaging captions to turn their photos into a visual blog or class newsletter.

Social Studies / Science: Photo Research Project

Each student selects a photo showing something historical, cultural, or natural (e.g., a plant at El Yunque, a fort wall, Bomba dancing). They research and present a short explanation or mini-poster with: What it is, Why it's important, One interesting fact they learned, etc.

Art: Photo-Inspired Art or Collage

Use their photos as inspiration for drawings, watercolor paintings, or mixed-media collages. Combine multiple student photos into a large class mural.

Technology / Digital Literacy: Photo Slideshow or Digital Museum

Students use Google Slides, PowerPoint, or Canva to create a presentation about their experience. Add voiceovers or videos for a multimedia project.

Class Book Creation: "Our Trip Through Our Eyes" Book

Each student contributes one photo and one paragraph to a printed or digital class book. Include a table of contents and student-created cover art.

Presentation & Speaking Skills: Photo Show-and-Tell

Students pick a favorite photo and share why they took it and what it means to them. Practice using descriptive language and clear speaking.



Photo List Answer Key

- A Palm Tree: What grows on a palm tree? **Coconut palms bear coconuts, and Puerto Rican royal palms produce small, reddish fruits**
- The Atlantic Ocean: Which side of the island is the Atlantic Ocean? **North and East**
- The Caribbean Sea: Which side of the island is the Caribbean Sea? **South**
- Puerto Rico flag: What do the colors represent? **The three red stripes represent the blood shed by warriors, the two white stripes symbolize victory and peace, and the blue triangle represents the sky and coastal waters. The white star within the triangle signifies the island of Puerto Rico.**
- Mangrove Cay: What is the purpose of the mangroves? **Mangroves in Puerto Rico serve as a crucial natural defense against coastal erosion and storm surges, while also providing vital habitat for various species, including fish and other marine life**
- Castillo del Morro or San Cristobal: Why do you think this castillo was built in this spot? **Both locations were chosen for their defensive positions to protect the city from attack by land or sea.**
- Statue of Christopher Columbus or Ponce de Leon: What is their relationship to Puerto Rico? **Christopher Columbus arrived in Puerto Rico in 1493, during his second voyage to the New World, marking the beginning of European colonization of the island. Juan Ponce de León was a Spanish explorer and conquistador who is credited with establishing the oldest European settlement in Puerto Rico.**
- Bomba dancer: Why do the dancer and the drummer have to pay close attention to each other in Bomba? In Bomba, the dancer's movements and footwork, particularly their tempo and intensity, dictate the music, with the drummer following and responding to the dancer's cues.
- Parque de Bombas: What is significant about this place? **This was the city's first fire station. It is now a museum dedicated to the history of firefighting.**
- A chicken or a chango (blackbird): What does "chango" mean? **The Puerto Rican chango is the Greater Antillean grackle. The word chango is Spanish for "little rascal" - these birds will steal your food!**



