



MOSQUITO'S  
WEDDING

*All We Need Is Love*

A Study Guide  
presented by  
SHUMKA

# Table Of Contents

<b>About the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers</b>	Page 3
<b>How to Become a Shumka Dancer</b>	Page 4
<b>Shumka School of Dance</b>	Page 5
<b>Mosquito's Wedding</b>	Page 6
<b>Theatre Etiquette</b>	Page 7
<b>About the Guide</b>	Page 8
<b>Project Based Learning -- Two Formats</b>	Page 9-10
<b>English Language Arts</b>	Page 11-16
<b>Ukrainian Language Arts</b>	Page 16
<b>Health -- Relationships, Understanding and Respect</b>	Page 17-18
<b>Art</b>	Page 19-23
<b>Music</b>	Page 24-25
<b>Physical Literacy</b>	Page 26
<b>Social Studies -- Culture and Traditions</b>	Page 27-28
<b>School Broadcasts – Extensions</b>	Page 29
<b>Glossary</b>	Page 30-33
- Ukrainian Wedding Rituals	Page 34-35
- Regions of Ukraine	Page 36
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	Page 37

# *Ukrainian Shumka Dancers*

Established in Edmonton in 1959, the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers is Canada's only professional Ukrainian dance company. Shumka presents full-length, dance-theatre touring productions as well as intimate concert repertoire across the country and around the world. Seen by millions on international television broadcasts, the company has presented command performances for Prime Ministers, Presidents, and Queen Elizabeth II, and has performed alongside the likes of Andrea Bocelli and Julie Andrews. Along with Alberta Ballet and Edmonton Opera, Shumka is honoured to be a resident company of the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

Almost 60 years of performance history has shaped Shumka's signature music and dance style. While maintaining deep respect for its heritage, Shumka continually challenges conventional boundaries in order to define the experience of Ukrainian dance in the context of today's society.

Shumka's current focus lies in the area of artistic collaboration and creation. The company is honoured to work with guest artists including dancers from Virsky – Ukraine's State Folk Dance Company – as well as The Kyiv Ballet in Shumka's Nutcracker every December.

Shumka recently partnered with the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus of North America on the Kobzari project, featuring Shumka's Kobzar along with the Chorus, in joint performances by the two renowned ensembles. Kobzari was presented in Toronto, Windsor and Edmonton in spring, 2017, celebrating the works and words of Ukraine's national poet, Taras Shevchenko.

In 2018, Shumka premiered its newest work, Ancestors & Elders. In a production featuring a cast of Shumka Dancers together with multidisciplinary Indigenous artists, Ancestors & Elders shares a story of the first Ukrainian newcomers to Canada exploring the shared values—as well as respected differences—between Ukrainians and First Nations people of Treaty 6 territory.

Shumka is based out of the Shumka Dance Centre nestled between the Ice District and Brewery District of downtown Edmonton.

[www.shumka.com](http://www.shumka.com)



# *How to Become a Shumka Dancer*

The process of becoming a Ukrainian Shumka Dancer involves a combination of talent, effort, dedication and passion. It takes many years of hard work to acquire the skills and technique necessary to dance and perform at this level. Before auditioning for companies such as Shumka, dancers have often trained in various other disciplines including ballet, tap, lyrical, contemporary and modern dance in addition to years of Ukrainian dance training.



# Shumka School of Dance



Established in 1989, the Shumka School of Dance has trained thousands of young dancers to help them achieve a broad dance-focused skill set, performance excellence, and a strong work ethic. With its family-like atmosphere, the School is a welcoming and safe place for youth to establish and accomplish their artistic dreams. It is also a place where they are given the tools and the experience to become future community leaders and builders.

The Shumka School provides Ukrainian regional, character, RAD ballet and contemporary dance training to students from 3 years of age and up. Offering Canada's only Ukrainian dance curriculum, dancers move through progressive levels of training, choreography and performance opportunities under high-level instruction. In addition, most of Shumka's professional productions incorporate students from the School as support or focus characters.

The School performs at numerous community events including festivals, special events, and in-care facilities throughout the year. In addition to providing valuable on-stage experience for the dancers, it is an opportunity for them to give back to their community.

The Shumka School's popular Junior Instructor Program trains future faculty while giving dedicated youth the ability to lead and inspire. Each summer, an array of Camp offerings provide training and educational opportunities for students from around the globe.

Currently over 200 students take part in the Shumka School and its programs, many aspiring to be future members of the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers and to contribute to the ongoing presentation and development of the art form.

Studia Shumka – a junior performing ensemble focused on continued dancer training – is a new bridging program that helps young dancers transition from the School to the professional company. Studia officially begins in September, 2018, and is open to graduates of the Shumka Syllabus and other dancers interested in a future in Shumka.

# Mosquito's Wedding



*Mosquito's Wedding* (All We Need Is Love) is a new production inspired by a traditional Ukrainian folk song. The 50-minute family-focused dance theatre production features a number of insect characters from various "regions" of Ukraine. The dance lexicon, musical compositions, and sets, costumes and props will be associated with these ethnographic regions. The theme of the production is poignant, being one of diversity, overcoming stereotypes, and acceptance.

*Mosquito's Wedding* is directed by Les Sereda with consultation by John Pichlyk. Choreographers include Les Sereda, John Pichlyk, Tasha Orysiuk, Paul Olijnyk, and Joseph Hoffman. Music is by Andriy Shoost, with costumes by Anna Ipatieva and sets by Andrii Zlobin of Ukraine. Local designers Eli Lindenberger, T. Erin Gruber, Jeff Osterlin and Randall Fraser bring their expertise in the areas of projections, lighting and puppetry, respectively.

*Mosquito's Wedding* premieres October 4-6, 2018, at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

# Theatre Etiquette

Practise being an attentive member of the audience and enjoy the performance in a respectful manner.

Following are guidelines for appropriate behaviour at the theater:

1. Dress for the occasion. Think of going to the theater as a special occasion, because it is a special occasion. Casual attire is perfectly acceptable now, but casual attire does not mean sloppy attire. Be comfortable, but polished.

2. Arrive on time. It shows respect for the performers on the stage and your fellow theater-goers.

3. Go to the restroom before you sit down, or during intermission, but not during the performance. It will be disruptive not only to persons seated in your row and the people around you, but also to the performers on the stage.

4. Unwrap any cough drops or candy before the show begins. The only sounds one should hear at a performance should be coming from the stage.

5. Try not fidget. It can be very distracting to persons sitting around you.

6. Keep your shoes on. Wherever you are in public, unless you are in the park perhaps, your shoes should be kept on.

7. Stay as quiet as possible during a live performance once it has begun. Do not talk or even whisper.

8. Take your hat off if you are wearing one that might block another person's view.

9. Respect the space of the persons on either side of you. Try to stay within the boundaries of your own chair; do not take both arm rests; and do not take multiple shopping bags with you to the theater, unless you leave them at the coat check before you enter the theatre.

10. Turn off your cell phone. As soon as you sit down, turn off your cell phone and put it away.

11. Be appreciative. Do show your appreciation by clapping at the appropriate times and standing when all others around you are standing. A standing ovation is the audience standing up to applaud and show enthusiastic approval or appreciation for the performance.

Adapted from a blog by: Patricia Napier-Fitzpatrick, March 2015

# About the Guide

Shumka exists to present, promote, preserve, develop and share Canadian-Ukrainian inspired dance as a community leader. In fulfilling our mission, we

- Respect the origins of traditional Ukrainian culture, while integrating the Canadian experience and contemporary community expectations in order to make programs relevant to today's audiences; and
- Engage diverse communities through performance, education and opportunities for inclusive participation.

The purpose of this *Study Guide* is to connect the production of *Mosquito's Wedding*, which features a number of insect characters representing various regions of Ukraine, to Ukrainian language and to Ukrainian bilingual and elementary school classes in Alberta and beyond. The dance lexicon, musical compositions, and sets, costumes and props will be associated with the various Ukrainian ethnographic regions. The universal theme of the production is poignant, being one of diversity, overcoming stereotypes, and acceptance. The message reaches beyond the Ukrainian classroom while introducing or reinforcing our rich Ukrainian culture through a variety of activities, projects and critical thinking opportunities across several curriculum subject areas.



# Project Based Learning

## PROJECT BASED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### TIC TAC TOE

What is the BEST way to share a story with an audience?

<p><b>1. COSTUME SKETCHES VANISH!</b></p> <p>The production must go on, but the costume sketches have vanished. The seamstress does not know what to sew!</p> <p><b>DESIGN</b> costumes for the characters in <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p>	<p><b>2. MISSING CHARACTER!</b></p> <p>The show cannot go on. One of the characters in the production of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> has gone missing.</p> <p><b>DESIGN</b> a 'missing person' poster to help locate the missing character.</p>	<p><b>3. TRAILER ALERT!</b></p> <p><i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> will soon be coming to Edmonton. You do not want friends or family to miss this fantastic production.</p> <p><b>CREATE</b> a trailer that captures the main theme of the production/show.</p>
<p><b>4. FRACTURED!</b></p> <p>A fractured fairytale takes a traditional fairytale and changes it in some way. You have been given the power.</p> <p><b>Fracture/re-write/re-mix/re design</b> an element(s) of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p>	<p><b>5. TRIVIA!</b></p> <p>Get ready to stump friends, teachers and family.</p> <p><b>CREATE</b> a trivia/jeopardy game that compares/contrasts different versions of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p>	<p><b>6. PLAYWRIGHT!</b></p> <p>After watching <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>, <b>WRITE</b> and <b>PERFORM</b> a skit/play that brings a part of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> to life.</p>
<p><b>7. READ ALL ABOUT IT!</b></p> <p>The cast from <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> just visited your school.</p> <p><b>WRITE</b> a newspaper article or <b>CREATE</b> a news broadcast (video) informing everyone about their visit.</p>	<p><b>8. HARMONY!</b></p> <p>Listen to a musical selection from <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p> <p><b>DESIGN</b> a stage set to match the piece of music or <b>WRITE</b> a song/lyric(s) to accompany the music.</p>	<p><b>9. LEAP INTO THE FUTURE!</b></p> <p>You are the artistic director/producer of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> in 2050. The local news station is interviewing you.</p> <p><b>WRITE</b> the interview questions and <b>CAPTURE</b> the interview in a video.</p>

Choose three activities in a tic-tac-toe design.

I choose activities # \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_

# Project Based Learning

MENU ... What is the BEST way to share a story with an audience?

**Choose one activity to complete from each section (beverage, main entree and dessert) of the menu.**

<b>APPETIZER (Motivating activities)</b>			
<p><b>WISH</b> Complete a journal response (pictures/words) and then share with a partner: Do you remember a wish you once made? If so, did your wish come true and how did it make you feel?</p> <p><b>STAND UP FOR IT</b> Complete a journal response (pictures/words) and then share with a partner: Recall a time when you had to stand up/fight for something you believed in. What was it? Did you get your way? Was it worth it? Who/How did it help?</p> <p><b>Mosquito's Wedding</b> In groups, complete a KWL chart.</p>			
<b>BEVERAGE</b>			
<p><b>1. COSTUME SKETCHES VANISH!</b> The production must go on, but the costume sketches have vanished. The seamstress does not know what to sew!</p> <p><b>DESIGN</b> costumes for the characters in <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p>	<p><b>MISSING CHARACTER!</b> The show cannot go on. One of the characters in the production of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> has gone missing.</p> <p><b>DESIGN</b> a 'missing person' poster to help locate the missing character.</p>	<p><b>TRAILER ALERT!</b> <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> will soon be coming to Edmonton. You do not want friends or family to miss this fantastic production.</p> <p><b>CREATE</b> a trailer that captures the main theme</p>	<p><b>CAPTURED in WORD!</b></p> <p>Watch <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>. Choose the character that you find most interesting/ magical. <b>WRITE</b> a series of journal entries telling this character's story.</p>
<b>MAIN ENTREE</b>			
<p><b>FRACTURED!</b> A fractured fairytale changes a traditional fairytale in some way. You have that power.</p> <p><b>Fracture/re-write/re-mix/re-design</b> an element of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p>	<p><b>TRIVIA!</b> Get ready to stump friends, teachers and family.</p> <p><b>CREATE</b> a trivia/jeopardy game that compares/ contrasts different versions of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p>	<p><b>PLAYWRIGHT!</b> After watching <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>, <b>WRITE</b> and <b>PERFORM</b> a skit/ play that brings one part of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> to life.</p>	<p><b>COMIC Writers Wanted!</b></p> <p>Create a comic strip/storyboard re-telling a portion of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>.</p>
<b>DESSERT</b>			
<p><b>READ ALL ABOUT IT!</b></p> <p>The cast from <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> just visited your school.</p> <p><b>WRITE</b> a newspaper article or <b>CREATE</b> everyone about their visit.</p>	<p><b>HARMONY!</b></p> <p>Listen to a musical selection from <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i>. <b>DESIGN</b> a stage set to</p> <p><b>WRITE</b> a song/lyric(s) to accompany the music.</p>	<p><b>LEAP INTO THE FUTURE!</b> You are the artistic director / producer of <i>Mosquito's Wedding</i> in 2050. The local news station is interviewing you</p> <p><b>WRITE</b> the interview questions and <b>CAPTURE</b> the interview in a video.</p>	<p><b>IT HAPPENED WHEN?</b></p> <p>Forgetful? Help the audience remember the correct sequence of events.</p> <p><b>CREATE</b> a timeline or <b>COMPOSE</b> a song to tell <i>Mosquito's</i> story.</p>

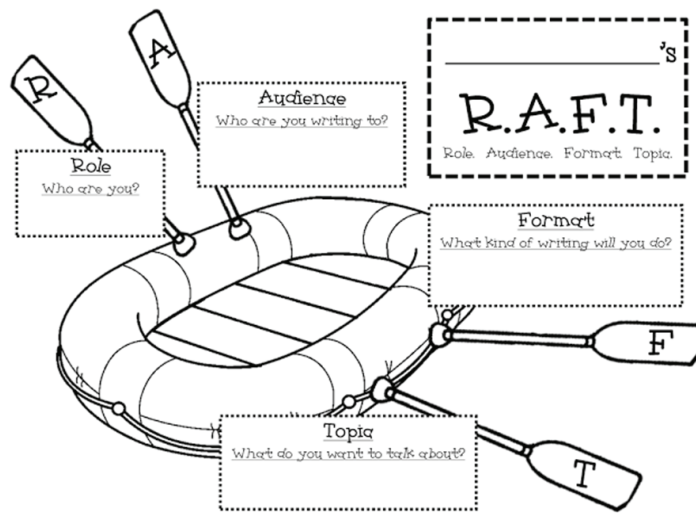
**R** – **Role**  
(Who is doing the writing?)

**A** – **Audience**  
(Who will be reading the writing?)

**F** – **Form**  
(Is this a story, letter, poem,  
or other form?)

**T** – **Topic**  
(What am I writing about?)

**S** – **Strong Verb**  
(What is my *purpose* in communicating:  
Am I persuading, creating, predicting,  
analyzing...?)



### R.A.F.T.S. Prompts

1. As the wedding planner, you have been hired to design the wedding invitation.
2. As the master chef, you must plan menu options for the bridal couple to choose from.
3. Your fiancé, Fly (**Mukha**), has asked you to invite her best friend as well as your arch enemy, Beetle (**Zhuk**), to the wedding. *Science Topic E; Grade 2*
4. As the wedding planner, you must persuade the parents to accept your venue selection for the reception. *Science Topic E; Grade 2 and 5 - Ecosystems/Food Chain; Language Arts 4.3*
5. You are Mosquito (**Komar**) trying to persuade a child not to smack (and kill) you before your wedding.
6. You are the travel agent asked to plan the honeymoon. *Science Topic E; Grade 2 and 5 & Social 2.1 Habitats/Mapping Skills*
7. As the reporter for the local newspaper, your assignment is to report on *Mosquito's Wedding* for the morning edition.
8. You are Fly and you must ask your fiancé to stop buzzing in guests' ears.
9. You are Fly trying to persuade a bird not to eat you or your family members before the wedding. *Science Topic E; Grade 2 and 5 - Food Chain*
10. You are the Tree Spirit (**Lisovyk**) entertaining the Forest Spirits (**Mavky**). Describe the best prank you have ever played in the forest.
11. As a rejected suitor, as well as a resourceful person who never wastes anything, tell your friend what you might be able to do with your pumpkin.

## Additional Writing Prompts

Use the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnwzdGVhY2hlcmNoaWNrc3xneDo2ZTYwMDdiYTM5NTljOTFk>

1. The day Mosquito visited the SHUMKA Dance Centre.... (*Literature connection to Diary of a Spider, Diary of a Worm, Diary of a Fly*)
2. The day Fly visited the SHUMKA Dance Centre....
3. Design a Wanted poster for an insect who is missing.  
Use this checklist to help you:

### Wanted Poster Checklist:

- The poster gives a picture of the wanted insect (mug shot).
- The headline or short description of the crime(s) must be accurate
- Give a detailed description of the criminal insect
- Explain what the criminal insect is accused of
- Use at least 2 colours on the poster (black & grey may not be your only 2 colours)
- Explain how to handle the criminal insect when caught.
- Describe the reward, give contact information (individuals, police department or city) and the name of who is offering the reward

### Literature Connections

1. Rewrite the story of *Little Red Riding Hood* with the Tree Spirit (**Lysovyk**) pulling pranks on her.
2. Snow White does not meet the Seven Dwarfs. Instead, she meets the Forest Spirits (**Mavky**). Describe what her life would be like?
3. Compare or contrast the role of the pumpkin in *Mosquito's Wedding* (Ukrainian meaning = rejection of a suitor) with other literature:
  - a. *Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (Headless Horseman = death)
  - b. *Cinderella* = pumpkin turns into a coach
  - c. *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown*
  - d. Other stories of your choosing
4. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* -- Why do you think the caterpillar was chosen to lurk around, rather than one of the other insects?  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY>
5. View the story *ONE*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbgsROSP0yO>  
Create a bulletin board display, poster, or announcement to present the theme idea, "It Just Takes ONE to Make Everyone Count!"
6. Choose an activity from this Tic Tac Toe:

## “ONE” Tic Tac Toe

Organize a “Stand Up Against Bullying Day”	<i>Write a song!</i> Choose a familiar melody and change the lyrics so they speak to friendship or fair play.	<i>Write a poem!</i> Choose a poem style of your choice and write a poem about anti-bullying, acceptance or friendship.
<i>Perform a play!</i> Write a play or skit about friendship, fair play or acceptance, and perform it together with some friends.	Create several radio announcements promoting friendship and fair play. Present them during your daily school announcements.	Research, learn and teach some appropriate co-operative recess games to a group of younger students.
Design some posters using AutoMotivator <a href="http://wigflip.com/automotivator/">http://wigflip.com/automotivator/</a> to promote acceptance and friendship. Post them up around the school.	<i>Write a rap!</i> Write a rap about friendship or fair play and perform it together with some friends.	Design a “wanted” poster to display in the school entitled “WANTED – KIDS WHO TAKE A STAND”

### Fables and Folk Tales:

A **fable** is a fictional story in which non-human characters such as insects, animals or objects are given human powers, such as the ability to think, speak and act like human beings. Sometimes told in verse, a fable ends with a lesson about what is true or right, called a moral, which one or more of the characters learns.

A **folk tale** is a story (that may be based in fiction) that has been passed down orally from parent to child, generation to generation, usually in a particular region of a country. It was originally intended to provide an explanation for things that (young) people did not easily understand. Because a folk tale was repeated orally, it often changed a little bit each time it was told.

1. Is *Mosquito’s Wedding* a fable or a folk tale, or does it contain elements of both? Support your answer with reference to the above definitions. Provide examples from the story that agree with your answer.

2. Consider a possible fable based on a video game character or characters you know. In a small group, brainstorm ideas for a story with a moral that would match the game character. Select one idea and explain why the moral would be important for your classmates to learn.

3. If you wish, take this exercise further and either write or script your story. Read or present it to the class.

4. Think back to stories you remember first hearing when you were very little. Share one story you remember. Was that story more like a fable or a folk tale, or was it different from both? What, if anything, do you think that story helped you learn?

5. Are you satisfied with the way *Mosquito's Wedding* ends? What do you like best about the ending? Why is that the right ending for the story?

6. Because a story ends in one particular way does not mean it needs to stay that way. In a small group, brainstorm possible alternate endings to the story, continuing from the point where the sad groom is searching for his bride. Choose one new ending, and either write or act it out for your classmates. If possible, create an ending that arrives at a different moral altogether.

7. Which one character did you relate to most closely in the story? What is it about the character that made you feel a connection? Support your answer with an incident from the story. Retell how this character responds to that incident. Is this how you would have responded? Explain why or why not.

#### 8. Spider Folklore:

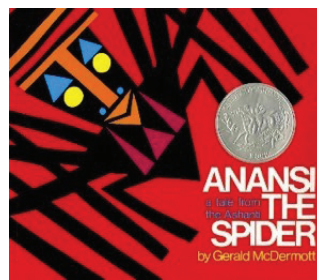
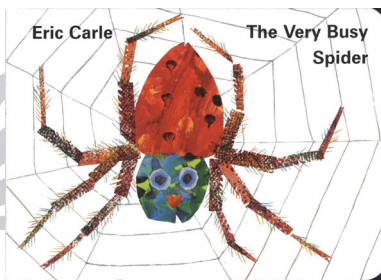
Knowing what you know about spiders, why was a spider chosen to play the role of the priest in *Mosquito's Wedding*?

#### The Very Busy Spider

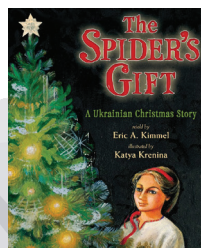
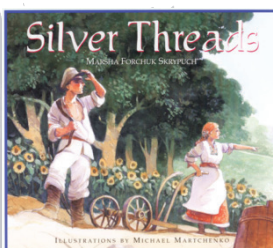
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfL0g-XRxnA>

#### Ukrainian Spider Superstitions

<http://myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends/origins20373-the-spiders-and-the-christmas-tree.html>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1CIBaRpSOg>



## Persuasive Writing Prompts

1. I think the coolest bug in SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding* will be ... because ....
2. I think the coolest bug in SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding* was ... because ....
3. If I could change one thing in SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding*, it would be ... because ....
4. How is the Wishing Tree like the Fairy Godmother in Cinderella? Explain who was better at doing their job.

## Ukrainian Language Arts

Use the graphic organizers in the following link to use the activities provided in English for Ukrainian language activities.

To ensure that you do not leave the guide, copy and paste the link in your browser rather than clicking on it.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H512ceG5gLoyuzbupz50f3dSdPUeNb7c?usp=sharing>



# Health – Relationships, Understanding And Respect

## R.A.F.T.S. Prompts

1. You are a spider trying to convince other insects that you belong to the insect family.
2. Explain to your friends why you don't change while your friend caterpillar does.  
*Life Cycles; Metamorphosis*
3. You are Mosquito and you are desperate to persuade Fly to marry you.
4. You are the counselor for Mosquito who is seeking help to overcome his shyness. What advice would you give him?
5. You are one of the Mavky in *Mosquito's Wedding*. Make a list of what you might do to make Fly feel better.
6. You write an advice column in your local newspaper. You have received the following question and must respond in this week's edition:  
*"I'm getting married and I do not know how to cook or do any household chores. Who do I turn to?"*
7. You are the leader of the termites. Devise your plan to eliminate (kill) the Wishing Tree.
8. You are one of the bridesmaids. Describe how Fly has turned into "Bridezilla."
9. Mosquito loves Fly, yet he is so bashful and fearful, he isn't going to get in line with the other suitors. As one of the Mavky, encourage and help him to win Fly's love.

## Additional Writing Prompts

1. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt alone, afraid, or bashful and needed someone to support you? Describe the situation. Who helped and encouraged you? A friend, brother or sister, mother or father? How did it all end? Describe your feelings at the time. Describe your feelings after it all ended.
2. You have stumbled upon the Wishing Tree. What wishes would you make, and why?
3. Create a dialogue between Fly and Mosquito in which they are arguing about each other's inability to do daily chores. For example, Fly: "Why can't you...?"
4. What could Fly and Mosquito have done to better prepare themselves for married life? (For example, marriage classes with the spider?) How would this have helped?
5. View Mark Willis' music video, "Don't Laugh at Me" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVjbo8dW9c8> or the book, *Don't Laugh at Me* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTNVXlirF4Y> and connect it to *Mosquito's Wedding*, as well as to your own personal life.
6. Try a Kindness Challenge for your class or entire school: <http://www.21daykindnesschallenge.org/daily-prompts.html>

### Kindness Books

<https://theimaginationtree.com/best-books-kindness-kids/>

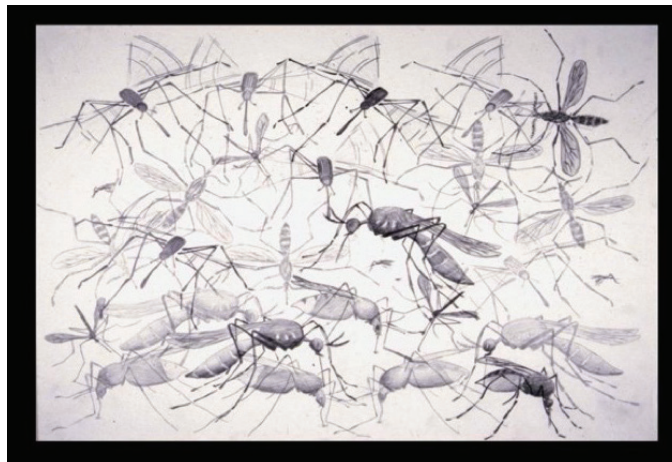
or

<https://www.the-best-childrens-books.org/stories-of-kindness.html>

### Acceptance Books

<https://homegrownfriends.com/home/10-childrens-books-that-teach-acceptance-and-empathy/>

## Draw a mosquito and/or a fly



How to draw a cartoon mosquito  
(4 minutes)

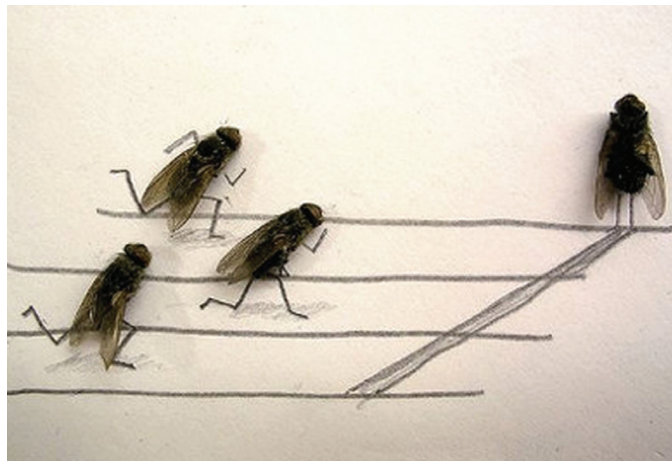
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9768yB0UQnA>

(9 minutes – more realistic)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYYuBWwvBfw>

(5:13 minutes)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlvJRf\\_rtwk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlvJRf_rtwk)



How to draw a fly

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6d-8ee3lacg>

## Ornamentation

Examine a variety of different styles of embroidery motifs, particularly those that depict animal life. Using graphing paper as a base, design your embroidery to depict a character from *Mosquito's Wedding*.

Sample Ukrainian embroidery motifs



The horses or peacocks could instead be a motif from *Mosquito's Wedding*

## Costume Design

You have been hired as SHUMKA's costume designer. From the list of characters in SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding*, design a costume for a character.

(This is an actual *Mosquito's Wedding* costume design for Fly)



## Paper Design



You may, instead, research traditional Ukrainian wedding headdresses and model your design on one of these:

<https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/54043264250293084/>



### **Construct 3-D Fly Wall Art** (for the teacher: Early Childhood)

Fly wings are shimmering blues/greys/greens.

#### **Materials:**

Large coffee filters  
Food colouring – blue, green, and mixed to make various shades of blue/gray  
Crumpled newspaper or other stuffing  
Black pipe cleaners  
Sequins, sparkles

#### **Process:**

✓ **Prepare the materials:**

Fold the coffee filters into triangles. Dip each of the three triangle corners into separate colours of food colouring so that the colours travel and spread into each other at the centre of each filter. Open the coffee filters carefully and place on newspaper to dry in preparation for next day.

✓ **Make the Fly body:**

Depending on how large you wish to make the Fly, take one or two coffee filters and lay hem vertically overlapping by half. Take a crumpled piece of newspaper (or whatever will be used as stuffing) and place the stuffing in the centre of the coffee filters. Fold over the coffee filters and glue to make a tube-like shape for the Fly body. Use one coffee filter to stuff, as above, to make the Fly head.

✓ **Make the Fly Wings:**

*(Students at this point should already know the shape of a Fly wing)*

Overlay several coffee filters to make the general shape of one Fly wing; repeat to make the other Fly wing. As the wings are not round, trace and cut away any excess coffee filter. Wings at this point should be mirror images that can be glued together overlapping at the centre. At the centre line is where the Fly body should be placed and glued.

✓ **Make the Legs & Antenna:**

After studying pictures of what real flies look like, students then use pipe cleaners to make legs and antennae for the Fly.

✓ **Decoration:**

Sequins and sparkles can be used to decorate or define wing shapes, eyes, body lines, etc. The wings will initially be quite floppy, but once mounted on walls should be fine.

## Create a Mosquito's Wedding poster

### Materials:

A poster is a kind of advertisement for an idea to be shared with a larger group of people. Posters combine visuals that attract a viewer's attention, together with a print message that provides details about the idea. A title – either print or visual or a combination of both – should be clearly visible. Colours may relate to the content of the poster, such as darker colours for a more serious message and bright colours for one that is upbeat and cheerful. The print message should be informative but not cluttered. Usually, posters take the age of their intended viewers into consideration.

Design a poster that would attract people to attend SHUMKA'S performance of *Mosquito's Wedding*. Identify the age level of the audience to whom you are advertising.

### Poster examples:



### Other Arts and Crafts Links

<https://buggyandbuddy.com/30-bug-crafts-and-activities-for-kids/>

<https://theimaginationtree.com/50-activities-for-playing-and-learning/>

# Music

1. Using a melody of your choice, write lyrics that depict events in SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding*.
2. Using a melody of your choice, write lyrics that encourage acceptance, love and kindness.
3. Using the melody of "All You Need is Love" by the Beatles, write lyrics that depict events in SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding*.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsxtImDVMig>

## Music Appreciation

The following song is the inspiration for SHUMKA'S production of *Mosquito's Wedding*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OlpZoAGUIGU>

4. Research and present other music related to insect/animal themes or stories:
  - Rimsky-Korsakov's "Flight of the Bumble Bee"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5UL1kh9qcM>
  - Puccini's "Madame Butterfly"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXfGPOHglmk>
  - Mozart's "Magic Flute"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vwub-9dZLFU>
  - Tchaikovsky's "Peter and the Wolf"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfM7Y9Pcdzw>
  - Theme from "Spiderman"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Ac4xamClgY>
  - Wedding march from Mendelssohn's "Incidental Music to a Midsummer Night's Dream"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phjKtmZjVMg>
  - Additional music of your own choosing

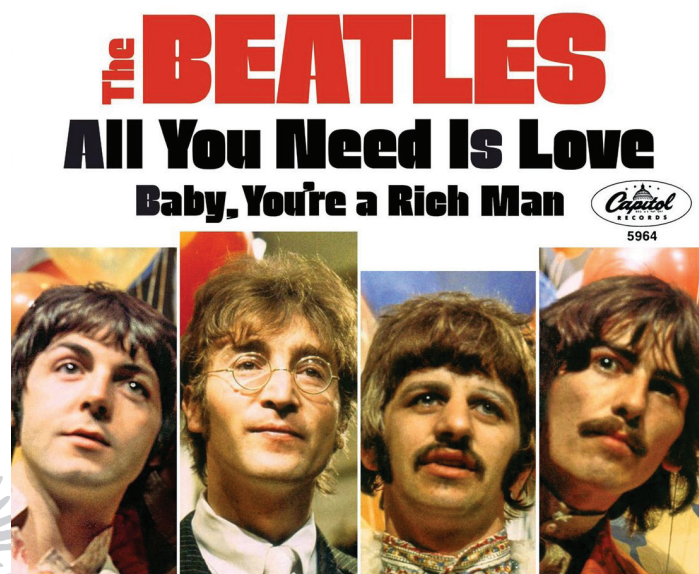


5. Compare and contrast SHUMKA'S production of *Mosquito's Wedding* with the book by Lena (Hryhor) Gulutsan, illustrations by Larisa Sembaliuk and musical arrangement by Eugene Zwozdesky.



6. After listening to "All You Need is Love," reflect on how this song connects your own life or the life of someone close to you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsxtlmDVMig>



# Physical Literacy

SHUMKA'S production of *Mosquito's Wedding* is referred to as "dance theatre." It is similar to a play that is acted out, but instead of language helping to tell the story, it uses music and movement.

1. How well do you feel the choreographer has told the story? Were you able to understand everything that took place on the stage? Which parts of the story were easiest to follow? What made it easy for you? How well did the dance movements fit the music? What was your favourite part of the dancing? Tell why.

2. On the other hand, was there a point during the performance when you were confused about what was taking place on stage, or where an action was not clear? How could it have been done differently? Give the choreographer one suggestion that you think would make this production better.

3. You may wish to choreograph a movement or a dance that would mimic the insects' movements. Create a happy dance for the wedding couple using upbeat music, changes of speed, and different dance movements.

4. Create "movement break" cards such the following:



# Social Studies – Culture And Traditions

1. Research the rituals of a traditional Ukrainian wedding. After seeing the production of *Mosquito's Wedding*, which rituals did you see were part of the production?
2. (For the Teacher) Review with students the symbolism of korovai. (See the explanation in the Glossary). Bake a simple version of a korovai with your students.

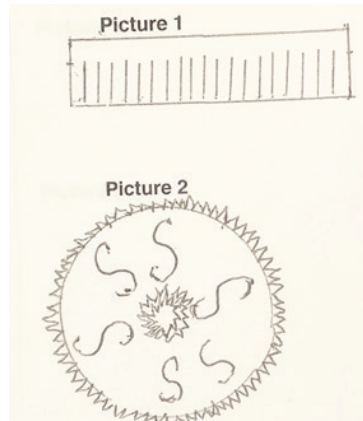
## KOROVAI RECIPE

### Korovai (Ukrainian Wedding Bread)

#### Ingredients

2 tablespoons yeast  
1 tablespoon sugar  
1/2 cup warm water  
Mix above and let stand 10 minutes.

2 cups water  
2 cups scalded milk (lukewarm)  
5 eggs  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 oil or butter melted  
1 tablespoon salt  
4 cups flour



#### Method

1. Beat eggs. Add sugar, oil, milk and water and beat.
2. In a large bowl, add the flour and salt.
3. Add the above liquid mixture to the yeast mixture; mix and beat well with wooden spoon.
4. Add another 5 cups of flour or more and mix by hand.
5. Knead the dough until it no longer sticks to the hands.
6. Cover and let rise until double in size.
7. Punch down and let rise again.
8. Then punch the dough down and form Korovai.
9. Use a 10 inch pan with a 6 inch depth. Brush the pan with fat before putting in the in the dough.
10. Place a plain rounded piece of dough at the bottom of the pan covering 1/3 of the depth.
11. Take two round balls of dough, the size of a large lemon, and roll each into a 28 inch roll.
12. Brush dough in pan with water to help decorations stay in place.
13. Twist the 2 rolls to make a rope. Join the ends together and place over the dough, around the edge.
14. Take a small ball of dough, flatten to make a long rectangle about 1 1/2 inches by 8 inches.
15. Make slits halfway along one edge and roll like a cinnamon bun (picture 1).
16. Make an indentation in the centre of the dough in the pan and put rose into hole. Spread out like petals.
17. Make 4 or 6 ropes the size of the little finger (about 4 inches long). Shape into S - coils and place on Korovai (picture 2).
18. Let dough rise to top of pan and then bake at 350 degrees F. for 1 hour, or until nicely browned.
19. An egg wash using 1 beaten egg and 2 tablespoons of water brushed on the Korovai just before baking. It gives a nice shine.

Elsie Kawulich  
Holy Trinity UCWLC  
Vegreville, Alberta



## Korovai Decoration Dough Recipe

### Ingredients

- 3 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons canola or corn oil
- 1 cup water

### Method

1. Mix flour and salt. Add oil.
2. Gradually add water and mix until dough is smooth and easy to shape. Dough should not stick to fingers. Do not overwork the dough or it will become too elastic and hard to shape.
3. Once the decorations are shaped, bake in a 300 degree F. oven for 10 - 15 minutes. The time depends on the thickness of the decoration. You are trying to dry out the dough so that it will keep. You are not really trying to bake it. If you brown the dough, it will not stand out against the Korovai background.

Elsie Kawulich  
Holy Trinity UCWLC  
Vegreville, Alberta

3. Write a recipe that includes the “ingredients” for a traditional Ukrainian Wedding.



# School Broadcast Extensions

1. Produce a Trailer.

Individually or in groups, create a trailer for SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding*. Students' trailers could be broadcast on school announcements or in class.

2. Student broadcast teams present a daily trivia question or challenge to students based on SHUMKA's production of *Mosquito's Wedding*.

3. After you have created/designed costumes for the characters in *Mosquito's Wedding*, display your sketches for a particular character on broadcast along with the final designs you created for the production.

4. Read your *Mosquito's Wedding* insect poems over broadcast.

5. Invite a member of the SHUMKA family (dancer, artist director, costume designer, production team member) to be interviewed on morning broadcast. Prepare to host that interview with a series of suitable questions.

Contact Kate at Bottom Line Productions at [kate@bottomlinepro.com](mailto:kate@bottomlinepro.com) or call 780.257.6931 to arrange someone to be interviewed.



# Mosquito's Wedding - Glossary

**Barvinok** - (periwinkle) - a trailing evergreen plant with small blue or white flowers. During a traditional wedding ceremony, the couple is crowned with periwinkle wreaths which symbolize eternal love.

**Bubyn** - drum

**Kadylo** – (censor) - In Ukrainian church services, incense is raised during Vespers, morning Matins and Liturgy. The bishop, priest or deacon uses a brass and silver cup-shaped censor that is domed both at the top and bottom and suspended on three chains. The top dome of the cup represents heaven and the bottom dome represents the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The three chains symbolize the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Inside the censor is placed lit charcoal onto which the priest sprinkles incense. The charcoal is symbolic of Christ's Humanity and the fire is symbolic of Christ's Divinity. The resulting smoke symbolizes our prayers rising to God. The censor also has twelve bells honouring the twelve Apostles. Usually, one bell is silenced to represent the traitor, Judas.

**Komar** - mosquito

**Korovai** - A traditional wedding bread steeped in symbolism. It is round like the life-giving sun and decorated with birds and doves that symbolize family, love and faithfulness. The dough braided around its perimeter symbolizes the never-ending circle of life, and the periwinkle represents love and purity.

## KOROVAI

The Korovai is a traditional wedding bread that is deeply rooted with ritual. It is always round like the sun in the sky and the circumference is always braid, symbolizing eternity and a bond that cannot be broken. According to tradition, the number seven plays a significant role in preparing and baking the Korovai:

- seven happily married young women prepared the korovai
- seven different wells were used for water
- the wheat was collected from seven different fields
- the flour came from seven different mills
- seven white hens provided the eggs
- the milk of seven different cows were used for butter

The ladies making the bread were called korovainytsi. They sang a ritual song that included the various steps needed, to bake a korovai.

## Korovai Baking Song

Благослови, Боже,  
А добра ти мати,  
Своїх дітей святи,  
Коровай міси,  
Отець, ненька, моли  
Хай Господь Благословить.

Bless us, O God,  
And you, Good Mother,  
Sanctify your children,  
Knead the wedding bread,  
Father and Mother, pray  
That the Lord may bless us.

А ми коровай робили,  
Господа Бога просили,  
Дай же Боже добрую долю  
Молодій й молодому.

We made the wedding bread,  
Asking of the Lord God,  
“Dear God, give good fortune  
To the bride and groom.”

Ой знаю я знаю,  
Що то в коровау,  
З семи криниць водиця,  
З семи полів пшениця,  
Три виходи по площі Тиктора.

Oh I know, I know,  
What is in the wedding bread,  
Water from seven wells,  
Wheat from seven fields,  
Three gates along Tyktor Square.

Хорошенькі коровайниці  
Хорошенький коровай мають,  
Сиром посипають,  
Маслом поливають.

Lovely wedding bread makers,  
Make a lovely wedding bread,  
Sprinkled with cheese,  
Doused in butter.

Зійшов я на долину,  
Прийшов на родину,  
Родину приволай,  
До мене на коровай.

I went down into the valley,  
Into my family’s land,  
To invite my family over,  
To taste the wedding bread.

Два яблучка на яблуньці висять,  
Два сестриці коровай місять,  
Вони його замішують,  
Вони його перемішують.

Two apples hang on the apple tree,  
Two sisters knead the wedding bread,  
They knead it,  
They knead it again.

Наша піч регоче,  
Коровая хоче,  
А челюсті усміхаються,  
Коровайа сподіваються.

Our oven roars with laughter,  
It wants our wedding brea,  
Its jaws smile,  
Anticipating the wedding bread.

А в нашій печі  
Холоднії плечі,  
Ще і срібнії крила,  
Що б коровай гнітила.

Our oven  
Has cold shoulders,  
Also silver wings,  
To make the wedding bread ruddy.

Короваєва пара  
По припічку пряла,  
У піч заглядала,  
Чи є в печі місце,  
Корваєві сісти.  
Рости, короваю,  
Ще ширший від Дунаю,  
Ще вищий від плота,  
Ще кращий від золота.

Our pair of wedding bread bakers  
Sat spinning beside the oven,  
Peering inside the oven,  
If there's room in the oven  
To fit the wedding bread.  
Rise, oh wedding bread,  
Wider than the Danube,  
Higher than the fence,  
Lovlier than gold.

Translated by Lilea Wolanska  
St. George UCWLC,  
Edmonton, Alberta

Today, many Ukrainian brides decide to have a korovai at their wedding. Sometimes, it replaces a wedding cake at the head table. Sometimes, a separate, clearly visible table is set aside to display the korovai. When a guest is offered a piece of Korovai, which is considered to be holy, it's customary to use a napkin as a sign of respect.

It is usually baked by a very talented Ukrainian person in the Ukrainian community. Usually, the top of the Korovai is decorated with symbolic figures made out of dough such as a rose (shyshka), spirals or S - coils. The circumference of the Korovai is ringed with a twisted rope band. After the Korovai is baked, it is decorated with green periwinkle and doves (birds). Many of modern korovainytsi have developed tiered korovaii with extremely intricate decorations.

**Lisovyk** - (Tree Spirit) - A character in Ukrainian folklore that controlled trees and all animals of the forest. Every forest had its own Lisovyk. He could take the form of a human, a giant with horns, a tree or an animal.

In the Hutzul region he was often depicted as a shepherd. He had no shadow. During the winter months, he lived in caves or deserted shepherd huts where he enjoyed whistling and singing. The Lisovyk was known to play tricks on hunters and lumberjacks.

**Mavky** - (Forest Spirits) – They were tall, round-faced, long-haired female spirits. They were thought to be the souls of girls who had died tragically. Living in groups in the forest, in mountain caves or in sheds, their homes were said to be decorated with rugs. They made their own see-through clothing from stolen flax. They loved to plant flowers and wear them in their hair. Mavky loved to tickle, but sometimes they just didn't know when to stop.

**Mukha** – a common house fly

**Pumpkin** - (harbuz) - a symbol of rejection towards an unwanted suitor





# Ukrainian Wedding Rituals

**Parental Blessing** - (Blahovishchenya) - In Ukrainian tradition, the parents give a blessing to their child before the church service.

**The Betrothal** - The Holy Mystery of Matrimony begins at the entrance of the Church. The couple stands side by side before the priest, who represents our Lord Himself – the one who has brought them together and guided them to take this step. They enter from the west going toward to east – symbolically from the darkness of sin and alienation, to the light of love and union.

**The Rings** - A highlight of the Betrothal Service is the blessing of the rings by the priest. The ring is the ancient symbol of endless love and union that will exist between the couple. The exchange signifies that in married life the weakness of one will be compensated by the strength of the other. By themselves as individuals, the newly betrothed are incomplete; together they are made perfect. Thus, the exchanging of rings gives expression to the fact that in marriage the spouses will be complementing one another and that their union will enrich one another.

**Vows** - The Bride and Groom stand and/or kneel upon a rushnyk. They place their hands on the Holy Gospel and say their vows.

**Crowning** - The crowning is the most significant part of the wedding ceremony. The crowns (barvinok wreaths) represent the glory and honour with which God crowns the couple as King and Queen of their own kingdom, their home. They will rule with love, wisdom, patience, justice and integrity.

**Joining of Right Hands** - The right hands of the Bride and Groom are joined together by the tying of an embroidered 'rushnyk' and the priest reads the prayer that asks God to "join Thy servants, unite them in one mind and flesh," to symbolize the oneness of the couple.

**The Common Chalice** - Following the joining of hands, the priest blesses the Common Chalice of wine and presents it to the Bride and Groom to drink from, three times each. This serves to remind the couple that from this moment on they will share everything in life: their joys will be double, their sorrows halved, and they will willingly bear one another's burdens.

**Ceremonial Triumphant Walk** - The priest leads the Bride and the Groom three times around the Tetrapod, on which is the Holy Gospel which contains the teachings of the Lord, and the Cross, the symbol of our redemption by Jesus Christ. The husband and wife are taking their first steps as a married couple and the Church, in the person of the priest, leads them in the way they must walk.

**Mnohaya Lita and Icons** - As the couple signs the registry, the choir sings 'Mnohaya Lita' (Many Years), granting the Bride and Groom many years of happiness as husband and wife. Icons are paintings on wood of Jesus Christ, Mary or other holy figures. They are venerated and used as an aid of devotion. They provide a visual reference of what awaits us, as they depict the heavenly world rather than this world. Icons will have been blessed during the ceremony and they are presented to the Bride and Groom as they exit the church.

## THE WEDDING RECEPTION

**The Greeting** - The reception formally begins with a ceremony welcoming the couple into the community. With all the guests present, the parents meet the newlyweds at the door. They offer the newlyweds bread, salt, and wine. The bread represents nature's bounty and hospitality; salt symbolizes an eternal friendship that will never sour. Salt is never corrupted by time and therefore never loses its taste. The wine is a wish for prosperity. The parents will offer their best wishes and drink the first toast together.

**The Korovai** - The Korovai is a traditional Ukrainian wedding bread with origins dating back to pre-Christian times. It is adorned with ornaments of baked dough that represent health, happiness and prosperity. The round shape is symbolic of the sun from which all life derives its energy. The birds and doves represent friends, family, love and faithfulness. The Korovai is ringed with a braid of dough, the never-ending circle of life. The entire arrangement is surrounded with a wreath of periwinkle, a symbol of purity and love.



# Regions Of Ukraine Represented In Mosquito's Wedding

**Bukovyna** - A territory of the Chernivtsi region in Western Ukraine. It has a rich forest region filled with fir, beech, silver fir and oak trees.

**Hutsulshchyna** – The south east region of the Carpathian Mountains. The Hutsuly living in this mountainous region are mainly cattle and sheep herders. They are famous for their inlaid wood carvings, ceramics, handmade jewellery, embroidery and Easter eggs. This is the setting for SHUMKA's Mosquito's Wedding.

**Pokuttia** - A region that has remained mainly agricultural as three-quarters of the land is cultivated with grain, corn, potatoes and sugar beets. Livestock is raised for meat and milk. Traditional handcrafts of woodcarving, embroidery and kilim (woven tapestry or carpet) have been maintained.

**Tsentralna Ukraina** - Central Ukraine is the country's cultural, economic, and political center. This historical land is where the kozaky lived with their families. The region is also a motherland for many famous Ukrainians, one of whom was poet and artist Taras Shevchenko.

**Zakarpattia** - Located in south western Ukraine, it has a mountainous and pre-mountainous landscape. It is mainly forested with beech trees and the lowlands are rich in orchards and vineyards. This region is also gifted with rich minerals.



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