

Teacher's Guide to Faces: People, Places, and Cultures: Let's Celebrate!

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Happy New Year from Vietnam, pages 6-7

Discussion

- When is the Tet?
- Why is it held?
- What food is prepared?
- What customs are observed?
- Name some of Tet's sights and sounds.

Break into groups. Find information about the New Year celebration below. Answer the same questions as you did for Tet. Share answers with the class.

Hanukkah
Chinese New Year

Hmong New Year
Japanese New Year

Indian New Year
American New Year

Timkat: The Ceremony of Epiphany, page 10

Vocabulary

1. What is the most important festival in the Ethiopian Orthodox calendar? *Timkat*
2. Using the Julian calendar, when is Christmas (Genna)? *January 7*
3. When is Timkat? *January 19*

Divide into two groups. Have each group define three of these words:

Epiphany
procession

ritual
ornate

Tabot
myrrh

sistras
censers

brocade
frankincense

Share group answers with the class.

A Day for Love, pages 11-12

Comprehension

What is your favorite Valentine tradition? Think about Valentine traditions in the article.

Match the first part of the sentence with the correct ending.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| _____ If a man passed a girl's window | 2 |
| _____ Pinning bay leaves to a pillow | 4 |
| _____ A girl would marry | 3 |
| _____ If a man picked a woman's name | 1 |

1. she would be his companion for the coming year.
2. she would marry him or someone who looked like him.
3. the man named on the first onion to sprout from ones she planted
4. meant you would marry your sweetheart.

Carnaval Time in Bolivia, pages 13-14

Research

Use a world map. Locate Bolivia and mark it with a push pin. Find information about carnivals in these countries.

France
USA

Italy
Canada

Switzerland
Spain

Germany
Brazil

Tell two facts about each carnival. Add pushpins to the map to show their location.

Hornbill and Water Snake:

Borneo Harvest Festival, page 15

Draw conclusions

- When do the Ngaju people of Borneo hold a Harvest Celebration? *Mid-March to May*
- How are the hornbill and water snake used in the celebration? *They are used in religious rituals and dances during the holiday*
- What does the hornbill stand for? *lord of the Upperworld*
- What does the water snake stand for? *lord of the Underworld*
- What takes place during the celebration? *hunting and fishing, physical contests, games, feasting, singing, dancing, storytelling*

Celebrating a New Day, pages 16-17

Activity

Teacher: Put the words below on slips of paper and put the slips in a basket. Put the bold words on the board.

Students: Take turns. First student—Choose a slip and tape it under the correct board heading. Next student—Explain what the word(s) mean according to information in the article.

Vernal Equinox	solar calendar	lunar calendar	Afghans
Nowruz	Taliban	Muslims	mosque
Haft Miwa	Samanu	Muhammad	kites
boiled eggs	carnival rides		

Time of Year

Festival Foods

Festival Activities

People

Growing up in New Orleans, pages 18-19

Creative Writing

Use the information in this article and the information gathered during the research activity for pages 13 and 14. Pretend you are at one of the carnivals. Write a first person article telling what you see and hear and things you taste, touch, and smell. Draw an illustration to go with your article and share it with the class.

Hippity Hoppity, Easter's on its Way, pgs. 20-21

Discussion and Art

- Discuss different traditions that use eggs at Easter.
- Do some research and find different patterns that can be put on eggs.
- Blow out the inside of a raw egg and decorate it using ideas you found.

Celebrating Freedom, page 22

Drawing Conclusions

--Think about Apartheid. What happened in the past in America that was like Apartheid?

Slavery and Segregation

--How did these things change in America? *Slavery was abolished. Integration was established.*

--Why do South Africans celebrate on April 27? *The first democratic elections were held on April 27, 1994.*

Celebrating Children in Japan, page 23

Research

Find this website: <http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/calendar/may.html> and look up "Children's Day". Use the website to answer these questions.

- When did Children's Day become a National Holiday in Japan? *1948*
- What can you learn about the size of the carp windsocks? *They have gotten smaller*

- What is *kashiwamochi*? *Rice cakes wrapped in oak leaves filled with sweet bean paste*
- What kind of Olympics takes place on Children's Day? *A Kids' Olympics*
- What is the Japanese word for a type of comic theater? *Kyogen*

Celebrating Strength and Speed:

Creative Writing

The Naadam Festival, pages 24-25

After reading this article, think about Naadam and other festivals featured in this magazine. What do the festivals have in common? *Many have games, special food, music, artwork, or performances.*

Work in groups to create a fictional festival in a fictional country of the world. Write down these things about the festival:

1. The festival's name
2. Two games that are played
3. Two festival foods
4. Two kinds of festival music
5. Two kinds of festival artwork
6. Two kinds of festival performances

Share your creative work with the class.

The Eisteddfodau of Wales, pages 26-27

Reasoning

Explain why these dates are important in regard to *Eisteddfod*.

1176 *Evidence shows an Eisteddfod was held this early.*

1451 *A group of Welsh poets sat down to discuss the rules of poetic form and length*

1861 *The first National Eisteddfod was held*

20th century *Folk dancing and music were added to the National Eisteddfod*

The Festival of Ramadan, pages 28-30

Comprehension

1. Name one of the Five Practices of Islam in this article. *fasting*
2. What does Islam require of all healthy adult believers? *fasting*
3. Why does eleven year old Noor Sukhun fast? *It helps her understand suffering of people who do not have enough food.*
4. When can Muslims eat and drink during Ramadan? *during the night*
5. How many days does fasting last during Ramadan? *29-30 days*
6. What are some exceptions to fasting? *Illness, young or old age, traveling*
7. Name three things about Ramadan besides fasting? *It's strengthens religious faith, it's a way to thank God for blessings; it helps Muslims focus on faith, renew spiritual life and learn self-control. It's a time to mend friendships, right wrongs, live in peace.*

Sukkot: The Feast of the Tabernacle, page 31

Comparison

Read the article as a class, talk about the tradition of building a temporary structure. Draw a structure you would build during the holiday using only use two and one half walls (the minimum for a temporary shelter). Share the drawings and talk about how the structures could be decorated. Then find pictures of Sukkot structures on the internet or in books. Compare drawings with the real pictures.

El Dia do los Muertos, pages 32-34

Read for Understanding

Mark each sentence with a T or an F to indicate which are True or False according to the El Dia de los Muertos celebration and customs.

- _____ Souls of family members who died do not return from the dead. *False*
- _____ The holiday is from Jewish and Catholic customs. *False*
- _____ How a person died determines his or her afterlife. *True*

- _____ The Day of the Dead and Halloween are the same holiday. *False*
- _____ Families create an altar to honor a departed loved one. *True*
- _____ Favorite food of a departed loved one is placed at the altar at home and also taken to the grave on November 1. *True*
- _____ People celebrate death as a part of the cycle of life by observing this holiday. *True*

Celebrating a Slava: A Family's Day of Thanksgiving, pages 34-35

Why do Serbs to celebrate Slava? Explain these words. Tell why each is important.

- *kola*—bread *This is a Thanksgiving offering to Christ*
- *zhito*—wheat *This symbolizes life after death*
- *sveca*—candle *This is a symbol of Christianity*
- *Sretna Slava!*— *"Happy Patron Saint's Day" (special greeting for the day)*

Try this **zhito** recipe as a class or at home with parent's permission.

- | | | |
|----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1 pound wheat grain | 1 pound sugar | 1 pound walnuts, ground |
| 1 tablespoon vanilla | 2 tablespoons rum flavoring | |
| ½ cup water | optional—almonds, raisons, parsley, nutmeg | |

Set aside 2 rounded TBS. of sugar and 2 of walnuts. Cook wheat in water about 2 hours over medium heat. Drain and change water (use cold) 4 or 5 times during cooking. Drain cooked wheat. Spread on a clean cloth to dry. Grind wheat in a hand-turned meat grinder. Mix wheat and sugar, walnuts and rum flavoring. Add some water until mixture is moist. Add parsley or nutmeg if desired. Put on a serving plate in a rounded shape. Spread remaining sugar and walnuts on top. Add almonds and/or raisons on top if desired.

Christmas Around the World, pages 38-41

Categorizing

Sort it out. Find words that go with the country.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ Germany | 1. Jonkanoo |
| _____ Jamaica | 2. Luminaria, Las Posada |
| _____ Ukraine | 3. Mummers |
| _____ Finland | 4. Christmas Markets |
| _____ Mexico | 5. Joulupukki |
| _____ Puerto Rico | 6. Kutya, Uzvar |
| _____ Canada | 7. Nacimientos |

Nsue and the Honey Guide, pages 42-44

Comprehension

What makes this celebration story different from the other selections in this issue of *Faces*?

This is a fictional tale, the other selections are non-fiction.

How did Nsue get his name? *He was named for how he looked when he was a baby.*

Why is Nsue sad in the beginning of this tale? *He does not want to kill animals.*

What did Nsue find to contribute to the celebration? *He found fresh honey from a honey comb.*

What new name did Nsue receive? Why? *Ratel, for being a fierce and clever honey badger.*

Answers

Celebrating a New Day, pages 16-17

Time of Year	Festival Foods	Festival Activities	People
Vernal Equinox	Haft	carnival rides	Taliban
solar calendar	Miwa	kites	Muslims
lunar calendar	Samanu		Muhammad
Nowruz	boiled eggs		Afghans

Christmas Around the World, pages 38-41

__4__ Germany	1. Jonkanoo
__1__ Jamaica	2. Luminaria, Las Posada
__6__ Ukraine	3. Mummers
__5__ Finland	4. Christmas Markets
__2__ Mexico	5. Joulupukki
__7__ Puerto Rico	6. Kutya, Uzvar
__3__ Canada	7. Nacimientos