

Holidays in Rhythm and Rhyme

Grade Level: PreK–2

Content Areas: Music, Social Studies, Art, and Language Arts

Time Frame: 60 Minutes

MATERIALS

Holidays in Rhythm and Rhyme series

Compare Holidays worksheet

Poster board

Markers

Different supplies for extensions

OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Know when and how different holidays are celebrated
- Understand why certain holidays are important
- Discover the different symbols or colors used for different holidays

KEY VOCABULARY

Before reading, focus on vocabulary. Read the glossary words and their definitions.

celebrate—To do activities to mark a special, happy time

ceremonies—Certain activities people do to mark a special day or time

culture—The food people eat, the clothes they wear, the music they listen to. These things make people who they are.

observed—Marked or honored a special day or time

FREE SONG

Click [here](#) to download or stream the Holidays in Rhythm and Rhyme songs.

Find other Cantata Learning songs and books at <https://cantatalearning.com>.



PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES

Preparation:

Gather students and tell them that they will be learning about holidays today. Ask them to name some holidays they like to celebrate. Write the holiday names on the board. Ask: Why do you think holidays are important?

Lesson Procedure:

1. Tell students that people celebrate holidays in different ways. Ask: What does it mean to celebrate something? (to do different activities to mark a special day)
2. Show students the cover of *Cinco de Mayo*. Ask them to look at the illustration and predict the ways people celebrate this holiday. Write their ideas on the board.
3. Now read *Cinco de Mayo* and play the song as well. When you are done, ask students to look at their predictions. Were they correct? What other things did they learn about the holiday? Discuss their answers as a class.
4. Now distribute the Compare Holidays worksheet to the class. Explain that students will write down the details about two different holidays as you read the remaining books. Read each one twice so that students can listen the first time. During the second read, they can write down the details from the books they choose. Remember to play the songs as well!
5. After you are done reading the books, ask students to think about how the two holidays are the same and different. Have them complete the charts on their worksheets with their answers.
6. To finish the lesson, divide students into six groups. Write the name of each book on a piece of poster board. Give each group a book and the corresponding poster board, along with some markers.
7. Ask the groups to make a poster that includes all the fun activities, colors, foods, and symbols used for the holiday. Display the posters in the room.

Nature Extension:

Make a fun Earth Day craft by recycling milk cartons by turning them into birdhouses. Clean and dry the insides of the cartons. Staple the top shut. Then paint the box. Help students cut a flap on one side of the carton. Leave it connected at the top and fold it up. Push a skewer through the side below the flap. Make it go through the entire carton. Punch a hole on the top and tie a loop of string through. Then add some birdseed to the bottom and find a good tree to hang it on.

Technology Extension:

Visit Facthound.com for websites and books about different kinds of holidays.

To tie in with *Fourth of July*, have students explore Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government at Bensguide.gpo.gov. They can learn about the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, along with symbols, songs, and more,

Music Extension:

Have students make a traditional Mexican instrument: the maracas. They'll also be recycling toilet paper tubes to make this craft. Use duct tape to cover one end of the tube. Then add some rice or dried beans inside. Cover the other end with duct tape. Then students can decorate the outside of the maracas. Provide washi tape in different colors or cut thin strips of colored duct tape. Wrap them around the tubes to make bright stripes.

Movement Extension:

Ask students to choose their favorite song from the series. Tell them that they will be creating a dance for the holiday. Many holidays have special dances, like the Mexican Hat Dance for Cinco de Mayo. Suggest a pattern of moves to try, such as jumping three times and stomping twice. Practice the dance with the music. Then ask students to name their new dance.

Standards:

Kindergarten: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.9,

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.3, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.8, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.5, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.K.1

First Grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.9, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.8, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.5, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.1

Second Grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.9, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.3, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.1

