



Let's Party Homeschool Lesson Plan

Raddish Lesson Plan Road Map

We design these lessons to be adaptable and flexible to your students and your life. You can do A Little Taste in ~45 minutes, or you can use the extension activities and make the projects and activities listed last over several lessons or even weeks. The lessons are meant to be interdisciplinary, covering many subject areas at once. Students of all ages can use these materials, with learners who are pre-writers able to draw or verbally share responses.

If desired, you could extend these lessons into a project-based learning unit of study, where students tackle a real world problem and create solutions. The learning happens in the process of getting to the presentation of the solution, and students often find it more meaningful when they are investigating a topic of their choice.

For a deeper look at the topic, A Big Bite offers extension ideas for learners who are able to read, write, and think on a higher level.

We always love to see your finished projects! You can share them in our Facebook group, [The Raddish Table](#), or email us hello@raddishkids.com.

Driving Questions: What is Holi? Why do people celebrate it?

A Little Taste

Resource List

Background Information (also linked within lesson)

- Color Theory Basics, blog post from Deco Art, <https://decoart.com/blog/article/318/color-theory-basics-the-color-wheel>
- *Let's Celebrate Holi!*, picture book by Ajanta Chakraborty, <https://bookshop.org/books/let-s-celebrate-holi-maya-neel-s-india-adventure-series-book-3/9781945792168>
- Holi | Let's Celebrate Holi! | Ajanta Chakraborty | Kids | Read Aloud | Story, video from Butterfly Garden Preschool, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhePjJePDPo>
- Holi, India's EPIC Color Festival, Vrindivan, India, video from Evan Meets World, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEw2YFCJmdg>
- Holi Festival of Colour | Planet Earth II | Cities Behind the Scenes, video from BBC Earth, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIhs5FO_Qqk
- *Festival of Colors*, picture book by Kabir Sehgal & Surishtha Sehgal, <https://bookshop.org/books/festival-of-colors/9781481420495>
- Festival of Colors by Kabir and Surishtha Sehgal read-aloud, video from Educating Abroad, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBiGKUaYwPI>
- What is Holi Festival? -Hindu Festival of Colour, video from Behind the News, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7NZEtivn0s>
- Holi Toolkit, educational toolkit from Hindu American Foundation, https://www.hinduamerican.org/haf-holi-toolkit?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&gclid=CjwKCAiAgyKQBhBbEiwAaPQw3B97kN5fo1r9Vi3iLh7DdX7407vsB8ZVIH_o0ciqSzk071rCNLqCTBoCfhgQAvD_BwE
- Make Your Own Holi Colour, recipe from Food.com, <https://www.food.com/recipe/make-your-own-holi-colour-167903>

Optional Extensions

- Here Comes Holi: The Festival of Colors, picture book by Meenal Pandya, <https://www.amazon.com/Here-Comes-Holi-Festival-Colors/dp/0963553941>
- Gujiya Recipe (Sweet Fried Pastry), recipe from Dassan's Veg Recipes, <https://www.vegrecipesofindia.com/gujiya-recipe-fried-baked-gujiya/>
- 11 Best Holi Recipes: Gujiya to Thandai, These Holi Recipes are Sure to Make you Drool, recipe round-up from NDTV, <https://food.ndtv.com/festivals/10-best-holi-recipes-694804>
- Rangoli for Kids, Art From India, video from Kirsten Brunner, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-qPk5ziWgs>

Conceptual Knowledge - What Do You Want Them to Know?

1. Holi is a festival that first originated in Northern India, but is now celebrated around the world by people everywhere.
2. There are a few different stories behind the origins of Holi, but today the celebration largely focuses on the triumph of good over evil, the arrival of spring, and bringing people together in joy and forgetting troubles. It is held over two days in the spring, corresponding to the month of Phalguna in the Hindu calendar.

Key Vocabulary

- **Holi hai** - a common greeting heard during Holi festival, literally meaning "It's Holi!"
- **Vishnu** - Hindu god of the universe, part of a trinity in Hindu mythology
- **Pichkari** - water guns used to spray colors on Holi
- **Gulal** - red colored powder, used in Holi and Diwali festivals

Cross-Curricular Links

- Social Science, Language Arts, Art

Project Idea/Scenario

Students will learn about the origins of Holi, and how it is celebrated today around the world. They will create their own Holi celebration.

Plan the Process: What Will the Students Do?

Students will read through picture books and watch videos about the festival and the religious and seasonal connections, and then find their own way to celebrate Holi and share knowledge and ideas with others.

Warm-up Activity - Activating Background Knowledge

- Use a color wheel to get students to think about holiday celebrations and the colors associated with them. Students can think about the colors associated with certain holidays, or the reverse and use the color wheel to see if seeing them sparks any sort of association with a holiday.
 - Which holidays have the strongest connections with color?
 - Do any of the colors represent something specific for the holiday? (Consider Hannukah, Halloween, 4th of July in the U.S., Christmas, etc.)
- See if students have heard of a Festival of Color, and what colors they might expect to see there.
 - How would you celebrate a festival of color? What activities would you include?
 - The lesson today is about Holi, a festival of color, that takes place in the springtime.

Sequence/Procedure

1. [Read](#) or [listen to the story](#) *Let's Celebrate Holi!*
 - a. What is this holiday about? Identify the where, what, who, how, when, and why of this festival.
 - b. How is it celebrated? Does it remind you of any of your own holidays that you celebrate?
Think about the similarities and differences.
2. There are actually a few different origin stories of how Holi came to be a celebration– check out [pages 7-8 of the Hindu American Foundation's Tool Kit](#). These pages show the different mythological stories that might have inspired Holi, along with the seasonal aspect of the celebration.
 - a. Who are Krishna, Holika, and Vishnu? How are colors associated with any of their stories?
 - b. What seasonal connection does Holi have? Are there other seasonal festivals or celebrations that you can think of?
 - c. What are the main themes important for celebrating Holi today? How do these connect back to the different origin stories?
3. Watch the [videos](#) about [some different](#) Holi celebrations from around the world.
 - a. What are some of the features of the different celebrations? Make note of who participates, the music, dress, and location.
 - i. How does this celebration appeal to different people? How is this different from other festivals or celebrations that you have seen?
 - b. Of the different videos, which festival would you most like to attend? Think about the elements you saw that appealed most to you.
4. [Read](#) or [listen to](#) the picture book *Festival of Colors*. Use the book and what you have already learned about Holi to complete the handout, found on page 8 of the lesson plan.
5. Select a project from the list below and complete it. Share your finished project while enjoying any of the foods from the Let's Party kit.

Possible Creations

1. Holi can be celebrated anywhere, by anyone: how could you create a kit to get someone started who does not know about Holi? Create Holi in a box – use a Raddish box or similar to create a ready-to-go guide on how to celebrate Holi. Consider including some [powder dye](#) ([homemade](#) or purchased) or water squirters, a sheet explaining the essential elements of Holi, including how and where this holiday began. Make sure to also create an instruction guide on how to have a successful Holi celebration.
2. Host your own Holi celebration! You will likely need to provide gulal and/or pichkari, so [you can make your own](#) or purchase the needed supplies. When gathering friends for this party, make sure you include an invitation that explains the celebration, and how they should dress and what to bring. Once gathered, be sure to present to them how the celebration began, and why you are celebrating with them today – think about the different reasons that people celebrate Holi and select the most appropriate one for you.

3. Research and find the closest Holi celebration to you; you may want to look for Indian or Hindu organizations in your town, or alternately search for runs that might be called “color” runs, as many now have incorporated throwing of colors into their celebration. How would you publicize the event you have found to make more people aware of it? Create a poster or commercial to give information about the event and also get people excited about something that might be brand new to them.

Extensions

1. [Read the book](#) *Here Comes Holi* about Prahlad, Holika, and the King. Create a comic strip showing the action of the story – this book sets the story within a story, but now choose one character to tell their own side of the story and see if you can condense it into a different version that fits into comic panels.
2. Make the foods of Holi! Use the recipes [here](#) and [here](#) to create some of the foods typically found at Holi celebrations. Compare these celebration foods to ones you might have at your own family’s celebrations.
3. Create a rangoli. This art form from India is found throughout the country and seen at festivals like Holi. You can color in a template, using Holi colors, from pages 18-19 of the [Tool Kit here](#), or create your own on a coffee filter using [this guide video](#). You could also create one using seeds, beans, or other small items.

Driving Questions: What is Carnival? Who celebrates it, and why?

A Big Bite

Resources

- *Steve Goes to Carnival*, picture book by Joshua Button and Robyn Wells, <https://bookshop.org/books/steve-goes-to-carnival/9781536200348>
- *Steve Goes to Carnival*, video read aloud from Mr. Bookman, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldw56FhmlTo>
- Fast facts about Rio's Carnival, video from ABC News, <https://abcnews.go.com/Entertainment/video/fast-facts-rios-carnival-45304547>
- Rio de Janeiro Facts for Kids | The Marvelous City, article from Facts for Kids, <https://factsforkids.net/rio-de-janeiro-facts-for-kids/>
- Carnival in Brazil: Everything You Need to Know About This Wild Cultural Event, blog post from Pimsleur, <https://blog.pimsleur.com/2021/02/10/carnival-in-brazil/>
- "Carnaval in Rio: A Beginner's Guide", article from Frommer's, <https://www.frommers.com/slideshows/830123-carnaval-in-rio-a-beginner-s-guide>
- Sunhills Valley - Around the World: Brazilian Carnival, video from Sunhills Valley, TV, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-03w8JF8bg>
- Carnival kicks off at Sapucaí Sambrodrome in Rio de Janeiro, video from Daily Mail, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEGuzncqar4>
- How to Do Basic Samba Footwork | Samba Lessons, video from Howcast, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMsRzvei_AI
- Visit Rio Carnival 2022 with your kids, post from Carnival Bookers, <https://www.carnivalbookers.com/rio-de-janeiro/for-kids>
- *Nini at Carnival*, picture book by Errol Lloyd, <https://www.amazon.com/Nini-at-Carnival-Errol-Lloyd/dp/0099501813>
- *Nini at Carnival*, video read aloud from Ms Sweeney Shares, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCKdnWVJ5M>
- "About the Rio Carnival Costumes", article from Rio.com, <https://www.rio.com/about-carnival-costumes>
- Rio Carnival BRAZIL 2019- Best of Highlights, video from Visao TV, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ztLCSwg6k0>

Project Idea/Scenario

Students will learn about the Carnival celebration in Brazil, with a focus on Rio's traditions and events, and create a project that highlights some of the fun and artistry of Carnival.

Sequence/Procedure

1. What are some large parties you have attended or seen? Have you ever attended an event that drew visitors from around the world?
 - a. What would an event have to have to draw global attention?
2. Watch [this video](#) for some fast facts about Carnival in Rio, and [browse through the facts about Rio de Janeiro](#), the home of Carnival.
 - a. What are the elements of Carnival that make this “the largest party in the world”?
 - b. What makes Rio a good place to have a global party? What other features does the city boast that draw visitors?
3. [Read](#) or [listen to the book](#) *Steve Goes to Carnival*.
 - a. How do the author and illustrator convey the party feeling of Carnival? Pay attention to descriptions and art that appeals to your different senses.
 - b. Is Steve able to celebrate Carnival in the end? What do you think the author’s message is about Carnival by choosing a gorilla as the main character here?
4. [Read the article](#) from Pimsleur about Carnival, and [browse the article from Frommer’s](#) travel about Carnival. Watch the videos [here](#) and [here](#) that give a glimpse into the event. Get moving at the end of the videos and [try to learn the basic steps of samba](#), the style of dance that dominates Carnival.
 - a. How does Carnival attract so many people from so many different backgrounds?
 - b. How is it accessible to all in different ways?
 - c. How are the floats and costumes different from parades you have seen in your own life?
 - d. How does samba shape the events of Carnival?
5. Complete the handout on page 9 of the lesson plan about the main features of Carnival.
6. Select a project from the list below, and share it once completed while enjoying any of the recipes from Let’s Party!

Possible Creations

1. Create an itinerary to visit carnival - on a budget and sky’s the limit. Consider all the costs involved, including lodging, tickets to the parade, meals. Use [this site](#) to price for tickets to various Carnival events, and for additional information about planning a visit to Rio.
2. [Read](#) or [listen to](#) *Nini At Carnival*, and [review some of the elements of costume design for Carnival](#). How would you design your own Carnival costume – it can be as humble as Nini’s, or as elaborate as you can dream! Most costumes for Carnival are available at varying price points; design your own, with adaptations for a more expensive costume and one for less. Give prices for both as if someone wanted options for purchase (don’t forget to consider costs of materials and your time.)
3. Judge the floats – find ten floats from [the 2019 Carnival highlights](#), and assign scores from 1-10 for different categories like theme, creativity, dance, music, etc. (If you have a friend or family member to view with you, you can compare your scores.) Tally up scores at the end, and create an award presentation for the best across the different categories and best overall.

Fast Facts About Holi

	What natural ingredients can be used to make this color?	What feelings do you associate with this color?	What Holi connection is there to this color?
Red			
Blue			
Yellow			
Green			
Purple			

Holi today is about _____

_____ is the name of the powdered dyes used at Holi.

If you see someone at Holi, you might both say " _____ " to greet each other.

Traditionally, Holi festival lasts for _____ days.

Fast Facts on Carnival in Rio

1. What are the main elements of the party? When and where are the biggest celebrations?
2. What are the main colors that seem to represent Carnival? (Hint: look at the colors in Brazil's flag)
3. How does the geography of Rio make it a great place for this event?
4. Name 3 can't miss events from Carnival for a first-time visitor.
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
5. How is Carnival a party for everyone? How can you participate if you have no money? How do people participate who have lots of money?