



Korean Kitchen 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 the Chuseok holiday, and what are its common traditions and activities?

A Little Taste

Resource List

Background Information (also linked within lesson)

- *Living in... South Korea*, picture book by Chloe Perkins, <https://bookshop.org/books/living-in-south-korea/9781534401426>
- Korean History for Kids: A Kid Explains History Episode 20, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qsTgptlhlw>
- *All About Korea: Stories, Songs, Crafts and Games for Kids*, picture book by Ann Martin Bowler, <https://bookshop.org/books/all-about-korea-stories-songs-crafts-and-games-for-kids/9780804849388>
- “Chuseok: The Korean Thanksgiving”, video from sweetandtastyTV, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LPEpPRyiNA>
- “Chuseok; the Fascinating Korean Mid-Autumn Festival”, article from Asian Customs.eu site, <https://asiancustoms.eu/chuseok-the-fascinating-korean-mid-autumn-festival/>
- “Arirang Special(Ep.326) Hahoe Village Ritual Mask Dance #1”, video from Arirang TV, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5J__sRcB3eY
- “Musical Instruments of Korea”, video from Ma'am Rheina, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvIk87vxuCU>
- “Korean Chicken Fights”, video from sweetandtastyTV, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=342nC-8G0d8>
- “Ssireum, traditional wrestling in the Republic of Korea”, video from UNESCO, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyIPFvDCE0Q>
- “Sijo Poetry for Kids”, blog post from Playful Learning, <https://www.playfullearning.net/resource/sijo-poetry-for-kids/>
- *Tap Dancing on the Roof: Sijo (Poems)*, book by Linda Sue Park, <https://bookshop.org/books/tap-dancing-on-the-roof-sijo-poems/9780544555518>

Optional Extensions

- “Korail ITX-Saemaul Review : A Fantastic Train”, video from Dylan’s Travel Reports, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEveiZlp8Hs>
- Korean Trains Explained: Map, Trains Timetable and Ticket Booking, guide from Korea Trains, <https://www.koreatrains.com>
- “What is life like for South Korean kids? Busy.”, article from The Washington Post, https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/kidspost/what-is-life-like-for-south-korean-kids/2018/01/23/0424f570-fc90-11e7-ad8c-ecbb62019393_story.html

- How to Play Baduk or Go, video news segment from Arirang News, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tt5zQ67trlo>
- GO Online, online game platform, <https://go.mattle.online/welcome>
- “School Life in Korea”, blog post from Trekkin With Melanin, <http://trekkinwithmelanin.com/blog/school-life-in-korea>

Conceptual Knowledge - What Do You Want Them to Know?

1. Korea in its current form is a relatively young country, but still has a rich history, especially in regard to celebrations and cultural activities.
2. Korea celebrates the harvest with a holiday called *Chuseok*. Traditional celebrations include many different elements, including games, rituals, and certain foods.

Key Vocabulary

- *Chuseok* - (also called *Hangawi*) one of the major Korean holidays; it celebrates the harvest over 3 days, and is similar to the American Thanksgiving holiday
- Peninsula - a piece of land almost surrounded entirely by water
- *Charye* - the Confucian ancestor ritual associated with the Chuseok holiday
- Lunar calendar - a calendar system based on the cycles of the moon, as opposed to the Western Gregorian calendar which is solar-based

Cross-Curricular Links

- Language Arts, Social Studies, Fine Arts

Project Idea/Scenario

Create an artifact that celebrates the Chuseok holiday and Korean culture.

Plan the Process: What Will the Students Do?

Students will learn the history of Korea, including cultural holidays and celebrations, with a focus on Chuseok.

Warm-up Activity - Activating Background Knowledge

- Take turns naming holidays that your family celebrates. When you cannot think of any more, go back through your list and see how many of them are federal holidays (recognized by the government, with many people having the day off from work) and which are cultural holidays (specific to a certain culture or group; these two categories can overlap!)
- Do you celebrate any holidays that are not recognized by the government where you live?
- What holiday do you think is the most widely celebrated where you live? Does it mean different things for different people?
- One of the major holidays in Korea is called Chuseok (pronounced *chew-sock*). Today, we will learn about Korea, focusing on this holiday to learn more about the people and culture of this country

Sequence/Procedure

1. What do you already know about Korea? Think about the food, the language, and the country as a whole.
 - a. Find Korea on a map or globe; based off what it is next to and its geographical features, what do you expect to learn about its history and culture?
 - b. Do you know anything about holidays celebrated in Korea, or in any countries beyond your home country?
2. [Read the picture book](#) *Living in... South Korea*. This picture book gives a snapshot of one fictional child's life in Korea, living in a major city. Think about:
 - a. Out of the cities and towns mentioned, where would you most want to visit? Where would you most want to live?
 - b. What do you have in common with Min-jun and his family?
 - c. What is something you found surprising about his life?
 - d. Were you right about any of your predictions about Korea?
3. [Watch the video](#) about the history of Korea to get a better understanding of Korea and North Korea, and South Korea's position in the world today.
 - a. Identify the major struggles Korea has faced. How have these struggles affected the people who live there today? What characteristics do you think Koreans possess who have lived through these events?
 - b. What do you think of the Demilitarized Zone, or DMZ? Have you ever been in a position where you were separated from family or loved ones? How did this affect you?
 - c. Go back to the end of [Living in... South Korea](#) and review the description of the Korean flag. Knowing more about the country's history, how do you now think that the symbols on the flag represent Korea and its history and its future?
4. One of the major holidays that most Koreans celebrate is Chuseok. [Check out the article](#) and [video](#) about Chuseok. Browse the [All about Korea book](#) to see if you can find more information about any of the activities, foods, and cultural events of Chuseok.
 - a. Does the holiday remind you of Thanksgiving? In what ways is it similar?
 - i. Consider the family, food, and activities associated with Chuseok.
 - b. How has the holiday and its celebration changed over time? Do you have cultural holidays that you celebrate differently from the way your parents, or grandparents, did?
 - i. Consider Thanksgiving's origin in the U.S. compared to how it is celebrated today, and consider Thanksgiving and its significance for First Nations people. Think about how your family celebrates and has adapted traditions to fit your family's needs.
5. Complete the handout [Korea By the Numbers](#), found on page 9 of the lesson plan. Use the various book, article, and video resources to complete all the sections.
6. Select a project from the list below. Complete and share while enjoying any of the recipes from Korean Kitchen.

Possible Creations

1. Investigate the music that showcases Korea's traditional stringed instrument *gayageum*. Research and see if you can find videos that showcase *gayageum* and singing around the Chuseok holiday, or look for videos like [this one about *talchum*](#), the mask dance. Use the templates and how-tos from [the book *All About Korea*](#), found on pages 36 or 29, respectively, to create your own mask and/or make your own *buk* drum.
2. *Sijo* is a traditional Korean style of poetry, which follows a few syllable and line rules and is similar to Japanese haiku. Write a few *sijo* about the Chuseok holiday and other Korean traditions following [the guidelines from Playful Parenting](#), and using [Tap Dancing on the Roof](#) for inspiration.
3. Plan your own Chuseok festival! Make sure to have some of the traditional foods placed on a wooden table, and think about which of your ancestors you could honor in relation to the charye of a. Showcase one of the folk activities or sports of the holiday by sharing [the video about *ssireum*](#) (Korean wrestling). Try your own wrestling by sharing [the video about *dakssaum*](#) (the Korean chicken fight balancing game), and challenging a friend to a match.

Extensions

1. Learn about the traditional Korean school day by [watching the video and reading the blog post](#) from Trekkin With Melanin, and reading [The Washington Post article](#). Create a timeline of a typical Korean school day and compare it to your own typical school day. How is it similar to yours? How is it different? What element of Korean school would you like to incorporate into your own school day?
2. [Learn how to play *baduk*](#), the board game that is also known as Go. [Play the game online](#), or try playing *gonggi*, a different Korean game that is similar to jacks, using stones at home. Use page 24 in the [All About Korea book](#) to get ideas on how to play your own game of *gonggi* at home.
3. The Korean train system is the envy of many other countries. How could you use it to travel around Korea? [Watch the video](#) about how to use the Korean train system, and then [use the train website](#) to look up how you would get around the major cities listed in *Living in... South Korea*. Could you map out a route that shows travel from Seoul, on to Incheon, to Busan, to Daegu, and then back? How long would each leg of your trip take, and how much would it cost?

Driving Questions: Why has K Pop resonated with so many people around the world to become a global phenomenon? What does K Pop teach us about Korean culture?

A Big Bite

Resources

- “How Pop Music Evolved Through Time”, video from The Things Celebrity, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNnlySDYCc0>
- “A Brief History of K-Pop”, article from Teen Vogue, <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/brief-history-of-k-pop>
- “Start Here: Your Guide for Getting Into K-Pop”, article from NPR, <https://www.npr.org/2020/07/13/888933244/start-here-your-guide-to-getting-into-k-pop>
- *All About Korea: Stories, Songs, Crafts and Games for Kids*, picture book by Ann Martin Bowler, <https://bookshop.org/books/all-about-korea-stories-songs-crafts-and-games-for-kids/9780804849388>
- “A Brief History of K-Pop”, article from On the A.Side, <https://ontheaside.com/music/a-brief-history-of-k-pop/>
- “The K-Pop revolution and what it means for American politics”, article from The Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.c>
- “K-Pop is Only Half the Story of Korean Pop Music”, article from Rolling Stone, <https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-features/kpop-korea-culture-trot-indie-genres-1100124/om/outlook/2020/06/24/what-is-k-pop-how-did-its-fans-humiliate-president-trump/>
- “A beginner’s guide to K-Pop”, article from Vox, <https://www.vox.com/culture/21258262/k-pop-essential-playlist-guide-for-beginners>
- “From BTS to Blackpink: What it takes to become a K-Pop idol in South Korea”, article from South China Morning Post, <https://www.scmp.com/magazines/style/news-trends/article/3048154/bts-blackpink-what-it-takes-become-k-pop-idol-south>
- “K Pop: How Do You Become a K Pop Star?”, article and video from BBC, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/48909691>
- Korean Proverbs, blog post from Go! Go! Hanguk, <https://gogohanguk.com/en/blog/korean-proverbs-%EC%86%8D%EB%8B%B4/>

Project Idea/Scenario

Make an artistic representation of K-Pop and its cultural significance by showcasing some of the big stars and songs of the genre.

Sequence/Procedure

1. Go to a radio, and try to see how quickly you can find a station that is playing pop music. Once you have identified one, see how many other stations you can find that are playing pop music.
 - a. How do you know it's pop music? Write down the words you use to identify pop music versus other types of music.
 - b. What do you think is the appeal of pop music? Do you like pop music?
2. Take a deeper look at what is pop music, and how it has evolved since its inception. [Watch the video about pop music's changes through time.](#)
 - a. What are the defining characteristics of pop music?
 - b. Where can pop music be found?
3. [Read through the pages 28-31 of All About Korea](#) to learn a little about the music culture in Korea. Make note of what the traditional music of Korea looks and sounds like, and who participates.
4. Despite its relatively small geographic size, Korea has an outsized effect on pop music globally. A newer format or genre of pop music is known as K-Pop, short for Korean pop music. [Read the article](#) from Teen Vogue, and then browse through the songs and videos featured in [the NPR piece about an introduction to K-Pop](#). For a more in-depth look at the history of K-Pop, check out [the article from On The A Side](#).
 - a. Based on the different articles, when do you think K-Pop started?
 - b. How does K-Pop tie into the country's cultural tradition around music and song?
5. Connecting the video about pop music and the articles about the rise of K-Pop, what do you think is the reasoning behind why K-Pop is so popular for young audiences and not as much for parents and older generations?
 - a. How has technology changed the reach of global music?
 - b. Do you listen to music from any country other than your own? What do you think has led to K-Pop's global success?
6. What are the messages of K-Pop? [Read the article from The Washington Post](#) about K-Pop's influence on politics. Review the article from Rolling Stone as well, and then consider:
 - a. What role is K-Pop playing in getting younger people involved in politics?
 - b. How is K-Pop shaping Korean culture, and youth culture around the world? Is their influence greater today because of technology?
7. Using the [K-Pop By the Numbers](#) handout on page 10 of the lesson plan, poll and then graph who knows about K-Pop across different ages. Do the results surprise you?
8. [Watch the video from the BBC](#) about becoming a K-Pop star.
 - a. How do people become K-Pop stars? What is the process?
 - i. Do you think this is similar to the process of American pop stars? Which way would you prefer to be trained to become a pop idol?
 - b. Based on what you learned, what do you think this system reflects about the attitudes around work and achievement in Korea?
9. Select a project to complete that allows you to highlight some of your new knowledge about K-Pop and its importance in music today.

Possible Creations

1. Create an explainer of the video history of K-Pop for some people in your life who might not know anything about it, from the beginning to a prediction of what's next. Make sure to compare K-Pop to other pop music that your audience might already be familiar with. Consider what songs you would recommend to someone just starting out ("If you like Lady Gaga, try ____"). Pull songs and inspiration from [the Vox article that features 100 K-Pop songs](#).
2. Choose one K-Pop group and do a deep dive into their success. Explore their sales numbers, how many millions of views their videos have, and their origin story. Then, create your own K-Pop group; make sure to have a leader and all the various "necessary" group members, and be sure to follow the formula laid out in [the article from SCMP](#). Create a drawing or illustration that shows their style, and who would most likely be their largest audience.
3. K-Pop is now being used by the Korean government to promote certain events and ideas. Along those same lines, choose a Korean proverb and connect it to a K-Pop song or K-Pop group. Use one from [the blog post about proverbs](#), or look through [the book *All About Korea*](#) to find one that you like. Create an illustration that could be used to cross-promote the two.

Korea by the Numbers

	The number of islands in Korea
1950-1953	
	Length of Chuseok
	How old a baby in Korea is considered when it is born
19x19 grid	
	Date of the next lunar new year
	Year Korea was split into North and South Korea
	The number of strings on the gayageum instrument
The 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar	
#1 treat associated with Chuseok	

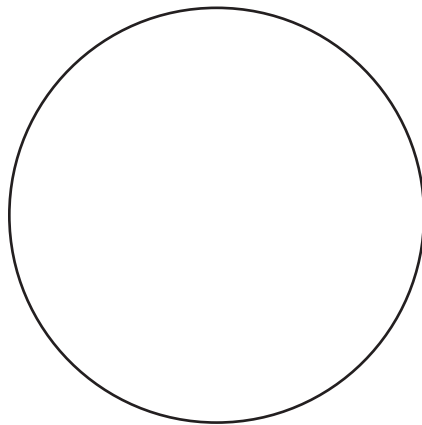
If you were to create your own flag representing the balance of your personality, what would you include in the design? Draw it below.

K-Pop by the Numbers

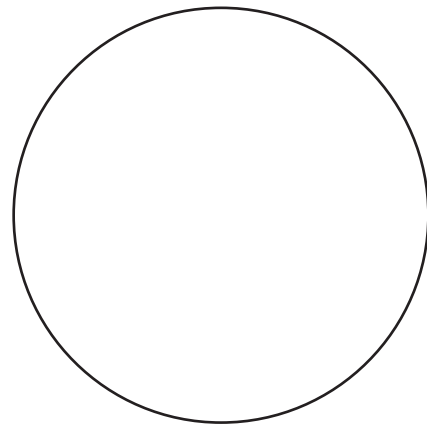
What group do you think will have the greatest knowledge of K-Pop? Why?

Select a group of people to ask if they can name a K-Pop group, and record their answers below by shading in the graphs to show the percentages of Yes and No answers by age group.

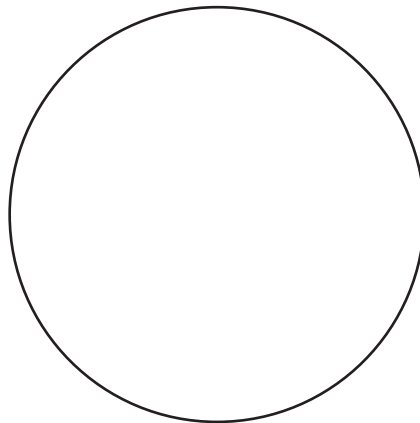
How many people did you poll? Under 18: _____ 19-45: _____ 46+: _____



**Ages 18
and under**



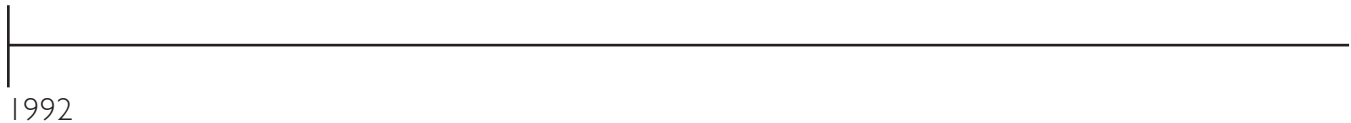
Ages 19-45



Ages 46+

Create a timeline of the greatest moments in K-Pop history.

Birth of K-Pop



1992

K-Pop Today



2021