

HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD

NON-FICTION ARTICLES

PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS

RESOURCE INCLUDES

- Bundle**
- ✓ 14 Articles
 - ✓ 14 Organizers
 - ✓ MP3 Audio Files
 - ✓ 2 Article Levels
 - ✓ Answer Keys
 - ✓ Print & Digital



- ✓ 14 High-Interest Articles
- ✓ Regular & Modified Articles
- ✓ 14 Graphic Organizers
- ✓ Teacher Instructions
- ✓ MP3 Audio Files
- ✓ Graphic Organizers
- ✓ 3 Post-Reading Activities
- ✓ Answer Keys
- ✓ Print & Digital Formats



WHAT'S INSIDE?



Included Holidays

1. Chinese New Year
2. Lunar New Year
3. Groundhog Day
4. Valentine's Day
5. Daylight Savings
6. St. Patrick's Day
7. April Fools' Day
8. Earth Day
9. Ramadan
10. Halloween
11. Diwali
12. Hanukkah
13. Christmas
14. Kwanzaa

"My students love learning about different holidays. This resource makes it so easy to quickly learn about how different holidays came to be and are celebrated around the world. Easy way to bring more diversity into the classroom!" - Adriana W.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON PLAN

Earth Day

Lesson Overview:

Students will work on their non-fiction reading skills while reading this article.

Materials Needed:

Photocopy a class set of the following or use the provided Google Slides version for 1:1 technology schools:

- K-W-L Chart
- Non-fiction article, regular or modified version (audio file also included)
- Comprehension questions, regular or modified version
- Thinking questions (select 1)
- Grammar questions (also available as a self-marking Google Forms Quiz)

Video

- Video #1: [HISTORY of Earth Day](#)

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LESSON PLAN

Lunar New Year

Lesson Overview:

Students will work on their non-fiction reading skills while reading this article.

Materials Needed:

Photocopy a class set of the following or use the provided Google Slides version for 1:1 technology schools:

- K-W-L Chart
- Non-fiction article, regular or modified version (audio file also included)

Video

- Video #1: ["Lunar New Year for Kids – Educational Video"](#)
- Video #2: ["Why Lunar New Year's Day is the best day for kids but not really for adults in Korea"](#)

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LESSON PLAN

Ramadan

Lesson Overview:

Students will work on their non-fiction reading skills while reading this article.

Materials Needed:

Photocopy a class set of the following or use the provided Google Slides version for 1:1 technology schools:

- K-W-L Chart
- Non-fiction article, regular or modified version (audio file also included)
- Comprehension questions, regular or modified version
- Thinking questions (select 1)
- Grammar questions (also available as a self-marking Google Forms Quiz)

Video

- Video #1: [Why Muslims fast during Ramadan](#)

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LESSON PLANS

WHAT'S INSIDE?



APRIL FOOLS' DAY

April Fools' Day, also known as April Fool's Day, was first popularized in the 1700s. The idea of April Fools is to play a trick on each other, while having harmless fun. The annual tradition's exact roots, however, are still unknown.

Gregorian Calendar Change
Many people believe that April Fools' Day originated in the year 1582, when Pope Gregory XIII introduced a new calendar called the Gregorian calendar to replace the previous Julian calendar. The Julian calendar new year began around January 1st. When the Gregorian calendar was implemented, the new year was changed to January 1st. Many people chose not to accept the change and continued to celebrate the new year on April 1st. This became the target of pranks.

Joseph Boskin's Tale
Professor Joseph Boskin from the University of California at San Diego believes April Fools' Day came from a story that begins back during King Constantine's reign. A group of people were teasing the king, stating that they could do a better job of running the empire. King Constantine decided to allow a jester named Kugel to be a day to follow along with the king. That day, Kugel passed a law saying that...

KWANZAA

What is Kwanzaa?
Kwanzaa is an annual cultural celebration that celebrates African culture, family, and heritage. It affirms African culture, family, and heritage.

Its name comes from the Swahili phrase "matunda ya kwanza" meaning "first fruits of the earth" or "first fruits".

Kwanzaa is celebrated for seven days from December 26 to January 1.

Some Caribbean countries and people of African descent do not celebrate Kwanzaa.

Kwanzaa is a holiday started by Maulana Karenga in 1966 in the United States. Kwanzaa is not a religious holiday, but a cultural celebration that empowers the Black community to rediscover African heritage and bring the community together.

Dr. Karenga modeled Kwanzaa

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Daylight Savings, also known as Daylight Savings Time (DST), was first introduced many centuries before it was actively used. In 1784, Benjamin Franklin initially suggested its use. The purpose for Daylight Savings was to save money on energy.

Daylight Savings History



People change their clocks during Daylight Savings.

By changing people's coal consumption, energy was saved.

In some countries around the world, as well as Canada and the USA, Daylight Savings Time begins in March by setting clocks forward by one hour. DST ends in November by moving the clocks back by one hour.

Is it Still Effective?

Daylight Savings did in fact save money on energy when it was first implemented, since coal was the primary source for energy. However, it no longer saves money today because energy sources have become more efficient than coal. Also, the middle part of the Earth receives the same amount of sunlight year-round.

14 ARTICLES

ARTICLE QUESTIONS

Name: _____

Instructions: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of lined paper.

Comprehension Questions:

1. When was Earth Day?
2. Describe the focus of the article.
3. What inspired Senator Robert Kennedy to propose Earth Day?
4. Explain the major event that led to Earth Day.
5. What was the environmental impact of Earth Day?
6. What are some ways we can help the environment?
7. Why is it important to help others?
8. Explain two of the things you learned from the article.

THINKING QUESTION

Assessment	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Above Expectations
	✓-	✓	✓+

Why is it important to help others? Explain your thinking.

POST-READING ACTIVITIES

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WHAT'S INSIDE?



SAMPLE ANSWERS

The lunar calendar is based on 12 full cycles of the moon, but

periodically, an extra

solar year. (2 marks)

When does the Chinese

Between January 21

What is the most well

Chinese New Year, all

What are some ways

• Red and gold deco

• Preparing and ser

• In C

• In M

• In t

• In Indonesia, peo

• In South Korea, s

• Exchanging red en

• Paying respect to

• Parades with lion

• Fireworks.

In many countries,

money, as well as pa

ANSWERS

1. In paragraph 1, what does initially mean?

- A. Never
- B. Finally
- C. Quickly
- D. **First**

2. What can result from a lack of sleep?

- A. An increase in stress hormones
- B. An increase in heart rate
- C. An increase in blood pressure
- D. **All of the above**

3. What is the author's purpose in writing this article?

ANSWER KEYS

4. Which sentence has the correct spelling and punctuation?

- A. **Today, in some countries around the world, as well as Canada and the USA, Daylight Savings Time begins in March by putting clocks forward by one hour.**
- B. Today, in some countries around the world, as well as canada and the USA, Daylight Savings Time begins in march by putting clocks forward by one hour.
- C. Today, in some countries around the world, as well as Canada and the Usa, Daylight savings time begins in March by putting clocks forward by one hour.
- D. Today, in some countries around the World, as well as Canada and the USA, Daylight Savings Time begins in march by putting clocks forward by one hour.

REGULAR ARTICLE

MODIFIED ARTICLE

APRIL FOOLS' DAY

April Fools' Day, also known as All Fools' Day was first popularized on April 1, 1700. The idea of April Fools is to prank each other, while having harmless fun. The annual tradition's exact roots, however, are unknown.



Mark April 1st on the calendar.

Calendar Change

Many people believe that April Fools' Day started in the year 1582, when a new calendar was created called the Gregorian calendar to replace the previous Julian calendar. The Julian calendar began around April 1st. Many people chose not to accept the change of date and continued to celebrate the new year on April 1st. Therefore, they became the target of pranks and jokes on that day.

In 1983, Boskin's story was printed in several different newspapers. However, people eventually realized that his story was in fact an April Fools' joke. The tradition of April Fools spread to Britain during the 1800's. In Scotland, April Fools' Day is a two-day pranking event. The first day involves "hunting the gowk", which means to send people on silly errands. Day two is known as Tailie Day, which involves pranking people on their "behinds". These pranks involve pinning tails and "kick me" signs on their "behinds".

APRIL FOOLS' DAY

April Fools' Day, also known as All Fools' Day became popular on April 1, 1700. April Fools is a day to play jokes on people while having fun.



Mark April 1st on the calendar.

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Many people believe that April Fools' Day started in the year 1582, when a new calendar was created called the Gregorian calendar to replace the previous Julian calendar. The Julian calendar new year began around April 1st. When the Gregorian calendar started, the new year was changed to January 1st. Many people chose not to accept the change of date and continued to celebrate the new year on April 1st. Therefore, they became the target of pranks and jokes on that day.

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Joseph Boskin's Tale

Professor Joseph Boskin from Boston University tells his own tale of how he believes April Fools' Day started.

During King Constantine's time a group of jesters were teasing the king stating that they could do a better job at his job. King Constantine decided to allow a jester to be king for a day. On that day, the king passed a law stating that pranks and jokes were to be made on that day. It then became a yearly tradition.

Word Bank

target - a focus

jesters - a person who likes to entertain the king at court

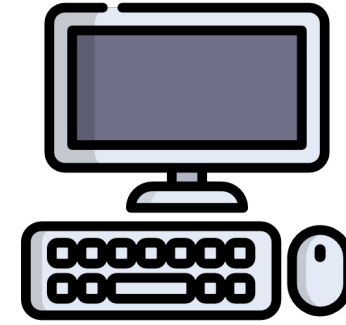
REGULAR & MODIFIED ARTICLES

LESSON FORMATS



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