

Activity Study:
The History of Holidays
Scope and Sequence

Grades: 3rd – 8th

The History of Holidays Activity Study offers a hands-on view of many different U.S. holidays celebrated throughout the year. Students investigate many of the traditions and history of each holiday through text lessons as well as projects and recipes. The Activity Study is designed to teach students through kinesthetic means, utilizing the senses and motor skills. Where younger students may need more guidance and assistance with the projects, older students should be able to handle the majority of the Activity Study independently.

Key:

- Italics indicates text to read in the study

I. History / Social Studies (Cultural Studies)

- a. *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*
 - i. “Walk in His Shoes” game
 - ii. Martin Luther King Jr. timeline
 - iii. Multicultural Necklace project
 - iv. Martin Luther King Jr. Day recipe

- b. *Valentine’s Day*
 - i. Victorian Valentine project
 - ii. “Cupid’s Favorite” game
 - iii. Valentine’s Day recipes

- c. *Presidents day*
 - i. “Who Says?” game (famous lines from the greatest presidents)
 - ii. Documents of Abraham Lincoln
 - iii. Presidents Day recipes

- d. *Passover*
 - i. “The Passover Seder Plate Game”
 - ii. Decorate Elijah’s cup
 - iii. Passover recipe

- e. *Easter*
 - i. “The Empty Tomb” pop-up
 - ii. Resurrection Eggs project
 - iii. Easter recipe

- f. *Flag Day*
 - i. Cut a Five-point Star in One Snip
 - ii. When and How to Display the Flag of the United States
 - iii. Flag Day recipe

- g. *Independence Day*
 - i. Flip book profiles of “Men who Influenced our Independence”

- ii. Print a copy of the Declaration of Independence and learn who signed it
- iii. Independence Day recipe

h. Labor Day

- i. Famous Labor Leaders project
- ii. Illustrated Book of Occupations project
- iii. Labor Day recipe

i. Columbus Day

- i. Spice Collage project
- ii. Making a Quadrant project
- iii. Color the Royal Standard of Spain
- iv. Columbus Day recipes

j. Thanksgiving Day

- i. Create student copy of the “Mayflower Compact”
- ii. Cornhusk Doll project
- iii. “What’s in a Name?” learning about Puritan names
- iv. Thanksgiving Day recipes

k. Christmas

- i. “The Nativity Story” Shadow Puppet Play
- ii. Making a Spice Ornament project
- iii. Make a “Jesse Tree”
- iv. Christmas recipe

l. Other Holidays

- i. Create your own Calendar

II. Geography

- a. Mapping the Routes of Columbus’ Four Expeditions (Columbus Day)

III. Language

a. Languages and Terminology

- i. The “Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation”
Penmanship Practice (President’s Day)

b. Creative Writing

- i. Write about Christmas Traditions (Christmas)