

Week 9

Topic: Celebrations & Holidays

Guiding Questions:

Why do we celebrate?

How can celebrations represent culture? How can they facilitate cultural transmission?

What are the biggest celebrations in my culture?

What are the biggest celebrations around the world?

Goals:

- I. To see traditions and celebrations through a cultural lens
- II. To understand the mutualistic relationship between culture and celebration
- III. To appreciate the major celebrations and holidays from other cultures

Activities:

1. Celebrate! Throw a themed party. This is perfect for all ages, and students can help decide on the holiday, decorations, food, music, etc. This can be done to celebrate one occasion in particular, or a variety of them. December, in particular offers a whole [host](#) of holidays worth celebrating. Celebrating is also a great way to incorporate other cultural attributes such as clothing, dance, and religion. [Here](#) are some of the most celebrated holidays around the world.
2. Make [New Year's Resolutions](#). This can be done individually or collectively as a class.
3. Chinese New Year Arts and Crafts: One of the most celebrated holidays in the world has no shortage of potential craft ideas. Some are more challenging, some are not, depending on the age of the class. A fun and easy activity that can be incorporated into broader lessons or stand by itself. [Here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#) are some craft ideas to get you started!

Active Cross-Cultural Exchange:

Holiday Party Videos: Students can create arts and crafts relevant to certain holidays that are culturally relevant to be shipped and exchanged with students from around the world. Students can also film their holiday parties and upload them to the Global Playground website or onto YouTube. For more information contact info@globalplayground.org.