

HOLIDAYS AROUND the WORLD!

READING COMPREHENSION!

Name: _____

Holidays Around the World L1

Bodhi Day
 Bodhi Day celebrates the day long ago when the Buddha found wisdom while sitting under a tree. Many families in Japan decorate their homes with lights or display a special tree. Some people enjoy quiet time, read stories, or do kind activities to show peace.

1) What does Bodhi Day celebrate?

☐ a day of wisdom ☐ a famous battle
☐ a winter sport ☐ planting a garden

2) How do families decorate for Bodhi Day?

☐ with bright flags ☐ with lights or a tree
☐ with paper lanterns ☐ with colorful balloons

3) What is one way people show peace on Bodhi Day?

☐ reading stories ☐ playing loud music
☐ running races ☐ camping outside



Name: _____

Holidays Around the World L2

Bodhi Day
 Bodhi Day celebrates the day long ago when the Buddha found wisdom while sitting under a tree. Many families in Japan decorate their homes with lights or display a special tree. Some people enjoy quiet time, read stories, or do kind activities to show peace.

1) What does Bodhi Day celebrate?

2) How do families decorate for Bodhi Day?

3) What is one way people show peace on Bodhi Day?

Name: _____

Holidays Around the World L3

Bodhi Day
 Bodhi Day celebrates the day long ago when the Buddha found wisdom while sitting under a tree. Many families in Japan decorate their homes with lights or display a special tree. Some people enjoy quiet time, read stories, or do kind activities to show peace.

1) What does Bodhi Day celebrate?

2) How do families decorate for Bodhi Day?

3) What is one way people show peace on Bodhi Day?



Name: _____ Holidays Around the World LJ



Diwali

Diwali is known as the Festival of Lights in India. Families decorate their homes with small oil lamps called diyas. People enjoy sharing sweets, visiting friends, and watching fireworks. Diwali is a time for joy, family, and sharing.

1) What is Diwali also called?

- ☐ Festival of Trees ☐ Festival of Lights
☐ Festival of Flowers ☐ Festival of Drums

2) What do families use to decorate their homes?

- ☐ diyas ☐ kites
☐ paper crowns ☐ wooden bowls

3) What is one thing people enjoy during Diwali?

- ☐ snowball fights ☐ sharing sweets
☐ surfing ☐ reading maps

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Name: _____ Holidays Around the World LJ



Folia de Reis

Folia de Reis is a holiday celebrated in Brazil after Christmas. It celebrates the journey of the Three Wise Men to Bethlehem. Groups of musicians wearing colorful clothes travel from house to house singing songs.

1) When is Folia de Reis celebrated?

- ☐ before Halloween ☐ after Christmas
☐ in the summer only ☐ during school break only

2) How do musicians celebrate?

- ☐ by painting pictures ☐ by flying airplanes
☐ by traveling and singing ☐ by playing board games

3) Who does the holiday celebrate?

- ☐ Mother Teresa ☐ St. Patrick
☐ St. Lucia ☐ the Three Wise Men

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Name: _____ Holidays Around the World LJ



Hanukkah

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday celebrated in Israel and around the world. Families light candles on a menorah for eight nights. Children may play a spinning top called a dreidel and enjoy special foods like fried potato pancakes.

1) How many nights is Hanukkah celebrated?

- ☐ 2 ☐ 5
☐ 8 ☐ 10

2) What is the candle holder called?

- ☐ torch ☐ lantern
☐ menorah ☐ candle rack

3) What is one special food eaten during Hanukkah?

- ☐ fried potato pancakes ☐ noodles
☐ candy canes ☐ rice crackers

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Name: _____ Holidays Around the World LJ



Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is a holiday that celebrates African heritage and community. In Jamaica, families may decorate with red, green, and black colors. People share meals, music, and stories that teach about unity and family.

1) What does Kwanzaa celebrate?

- ☐ sports teams and their mascots ☐ African heritage and community
☐ a new school year ☐ a graduation

2) What colors are used for decorations?

- ☐ blue, white, and pink ☐ red, green, and black
☐ brown, pink, and blue ☐ red, yellow, and blue

3) What is one way people celebrate Kwanzaa?

- ☐ sharing meals ☐ racing cars
☐ building sandcastles ☐ flying rockets

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Name: _____ Holidays Around the World LJ



Las Posadas

In Mexico, people celebrate *Las Posadas*, a festival that lasts nine nights before Christmas. Families and friends walk together, sing songs, and visit homes. Children love breaking colorful piñatas filled with candy and toys.

1) What is the name of the Christmas celebration in Mexico?

- ☐ Las Posadas ☐ La Fiesta
☐ Navidad Noche ☐ La Noche Buena

2) How long does *Las Posadas* last?

- ☐ one night ☐ three nights
☐ nine nights ☐ twelve nights

3) What do children enjoy breaking during *Las Posadas*?

- ☐ balloons ☐ piñatas
☐ boxes ☐ drums

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Level
1

Name: _____

Holidays Around
the World L2



Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year is an important holiday in China. Families clean their homes to welcome good luck and wear new clothes. There are parades with lion dances and bright red decorations everywhere.

1) What do families do to welcome good luck?

2) What color is often used for decorations?

3) What dance is seen in parades?

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Name: _____

Holidays Around
the World L2



Ramadan

Ramadan is a special month in Saudi Arabia for Muslims around the world. Many families fast during the day and share a meal together after sunset. People focus on kindness, gratitude, and helping others.

1) Ramadan lasts for how long?

2) When do families share a meal?

3) What do people focus on during Ramadan?

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Name: _____

Holidays Around
the World L2



St. Lucia Day

In Sweden, the Christmas season begins with St. Lucia's Day on December 13th. Girls wear white dresses and candle crowns while singing songs. Families enjoy *lussekatter*, sweet saffron buns, and gather to share light and kindness.

1) When is St. Lucia's Day celebrated?

2) What do girls wear for St. Lucia's Day?

3) What are *lussekatter*?

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Name: _____

Holidays Around
the World L2



St. Stephen's Day

St. Stephen's Day is a holiday in Ireland celebrated the day after Christmas. Some people take part in parades and listen to music in the streets. Families may gather to relax and visit friends.

1) When is St. Stephen's Day celebrated?

2) What do some people do in the streets?

3) What is an important symbol on St. Stephen's Day?

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Holidays Around
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Bodhi Day

Bodhi Day celebrates the day long ago when the Buddha found wisdom while sitting under a tree. Many families in Japan decorate their homes with lights or display a special tree. Some people enjoy quiet time, read stories, or do kind activities to show peace.

1) What does Bodhi Day celebrate?

2) How do families decorate for Bodhi Day?

3) What is one way people show peace on Bodhi Day?

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Level
2

Name: _____

Holidays Around
the World L3



Diwali

Diwali is known as the Festival of Lights in India. Families decorate their homes with small oil lamps called diyas. People enjoy sharing sweets, visiting friends, and watching fireworks. Diwali is a time for joy, family, and sharing.

1) What is Diwali also called?

2) What do families use to decorate their homes?

3) What is one thing people enjoy during Diwali?

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Holidays Around
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Folia de Reis

Folia de Reis is a holiday celebrated in Brazil after Christmas. It celebrates the journey of the Three Wise Men to Bethlehem. Groups of musicians wearing colorful clothes travel from house to house singing songs.

1) When is Folia de Reis celebrated?

2) How do musicians celebrate?

3) Who does the holiday celebrate?

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Holidays Around
the World L3



Hanukkah

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday celebrated in Israel and around the world. Families light candles on a menorah for eight nights. Children may play a spinning top called a dreidel and enjoy special foods like fried potato pancakes.

1) How many nights is Hanukkah celebrated?

2) What is the candle holder called?

3) What is one special food eaten during Hanukkah?

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Holidays Around
the World L3



Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is a holiday that celebrates African heritage and community. In Jamaica, families may decorate with red, green, and black colors. People share meals, music, and stories that teach about unity and family.

1) What does Kwanzaa celebrate?

2) What colors are used for decorations?

3) What is one way people celebrate Kwanzaa?

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Holidays Around
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Las Posadas

In Mexico, people celebrate *Las Posadas*, a festival that lasts nine nights before Christmas. Families and friends walk together, sing songs, and visit homes. Children love breaking colorful piñatas filled with candy and toys.

1) What is the name of the Christmas celebration in Mexico?

2) How long does *Las Posadas* last?

3) What do children enjoy breaking during *Las Posadas*?

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Level
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Kwanzaa

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1) What does Kwanzaa celebrate?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ sports teams and their mascots | ☐ African heritage and community |
| ☐ a new school year | ☐ a graduation |

2) What colors are used for decorations?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ blue, white, and pink | ☐ red, green, and black |
| ☐ brown, pink, and blue | ☐ red, yellow, and blue |

3) What is one way people celebrate Kwanzaa?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ sharing meals | ☐ racing cars |
| ☐ building sandcastles | ☐ flying rockets |

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Kwanzaa

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Low
prep!

Students can practice critical thinking and deductive reasoning to make meaning of the text!

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- ☐ diyas ☐ kites
☐ paper crowns ☐ wooden bowls

3) What is one thing people enjoy during Diwali?

- ☐ snowball fights ☐ sharing sweets
☐ surfing ☐ reading maps

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Name: _____ Holidays Around the World L2



Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year is an important holiday in China. Families clean their homes to welcome good luck and wear new clothes. There are parades with lion dances and bright red decorations everywhere.

1) What do families do to welcome good luck?

2) What color is often used for decorations?

3) What dance is seen in parades?

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Ramadan

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1) Ramadan lasts for how long?

2) When do families share a meal?

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Name: _____ Holidays Around the World L3



St. Stephen's Day

St. Stephen's Day is a holiday in Ireland celebrated the day after Christmas. Some people take part in parades and listen to music in the streets. Families may gather to relax and visit friends.

1) When is St. Stephen's Day celebrated?

2) What do some people do in the streets?

3) What is an important symbol on St. Stephen's Day?

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Name: _____ Holidays Around the World L1



St. Lucia Day

In Sweden, the Christmas season begins with St. Lucia's Day on December 13th. Girls wear white dresses and candle crowns while singing songs. Families enjoy *lussekatter*, sweet saffron buns, and gather to share light and kindness.

1) When is St. Lucia's Day celebrated?

- ☐ December 13th ☐ December 24th
☐ December 31st ☐ December 6th

2) What do girls wear for St. Lucia's Day?

- ☐ white dresses and candle crowns ☐ snow boots and scarves
☐ red coats ☐ Santa suits and hats

3) What are *lussekatter*?

- ☐ sweet saffron buns ☐ chocolate cookies
☐ fruit pies ☐ candles

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**B&W
included!**

Name: **ANSWER-KEY** Holidays Around the World L1



Bodhi Day

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- ☒ a day of wisdom ☐ a famous battle
☐ a winter sport ☐ planting a garden

2) How do families decorate for Bodhi Day?

- ☐ with bright flags ☒ with lights or a tree
☐ with paper lanterns ☐ with colorful balloons

3) What is one way people show peace on Bodhi Day?

- ☒ reading stories ☐ playing loud music
☐ running races ☐ camping outside

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Name: **ANSWER-KEY** Holidays Around the World L2



St. Stephen's Day

St. Stephen's Day is a holiday in Ireland celebrated the day after Christmas. Some people take part in parades and listen to music in the streets. Families may gather to relax and visit friends.

1) When is St. Stephen's Day celebrated?

The holiday is celebrated the day after Christmas.

2) What do some people do in the streets?

Some people take part in parades and listen to music.

3) What is an important symbol on St. Stephen's Day?

An important symbol on St. Stephen's Day is the wren.

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Name: **ANSWER KEY** Holidays Around the World L3



Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is a holiday that celebrates African heritage and community. In Jamaica, families may decorate with red, green, and black colors. People share meals, music, and stories that teach about unity and family.

1) What does Kwanzaa celebrate?

Kwanzaa celebrates African heritage and community.

2) What colors are used for decorations?

Red, green, and black colors are used for decorations.

3) What is one way people celebrate Kwanzaa?

People celebrate by sharing meals, music and stories.

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Answer keys included for quick and easy assessment!

If you like this resource and want to **SAVE BIG**, check out these bundles!

DIFFERENTIATED PASSAGES AND QUESTIONS

CHRISTMAS AROUND the WORLD!

Name: Katerina Christmas Around the World LI

Australia

In Australia, Christmas comes during summer! Many people spend the day outside, going to the beach or having a barbecue. Families enjoy seafood, salads, and cold desserts instead of hot winter meals.

1) What season is it in Australia during Christmas?

☐ winter ☐ fall

☒ summer ☐ spring

2) Where do many people spend Christmas Day?

☒ at the beach ☐ in the mountains

☐ at the park ☐ at school

3) What kind of food do Australians often eat for Christmas?

☐ soup and pie ☒ seafood and salads

☐ candy and cookies ☐ pancakes and eggs

Name: Ezekiel Christmas Around the World LS

The Philippines

The Philippines has one of the longest Christmas seasons in the world! Celebrations start in September and last until January. People decorate with star-shaped lanterns called *parols* and enjoy big meals with family and friends.

1) When do Christmas celebrations begin in the Philippines?

Christmas celebrations begin in September.

2) What is a *parol*?

Parols are star-shaped lanterns.

3) Who do people celebrate with?

People celebrate with family and friends.

DIFFERENTIATED READING COMPREHENSION

READING COMP BUNDLE!

Name: Tyrone Native American Heritage LI

Sioux

The Sioux lived in the northern Great Plains. They moved around from place to place following the buffalo. They lived in teepees that could be taken down and set up quickly. They got most of their food from hunting bison, deer, and elk.

1) Where did the Sioux live?

☐ Southeast America ☒ Northern Great Plains

☐ Mexico ☐ Southwest America

2) Which animal did they follow?

☐ giraffe ☐ bird

☐ rat ☒ buffalo

3) Which animals did they hunt?

☐ bison ☐ deer

☐ elk ☒ all of these

Name: Samira Women's History LS

Maya Lin

Maya won a design contest of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Her design was a black granite wall with the names of fallen soldiers. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2016 by President Barack Obama.

1) What contest did Maya win?

She won a design contest of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

2) Who gave her an award?

President Barack Obama gave her an award.

3) What was her design?

Her design was a black granite wall with the names of fallen soldiers.

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