

MAY DAY AROUND the WORLD

READING COMPREHENSION!

Name: _____ May Day Around the World L1

Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic, May Day is a spring holiday. Some people celebrate by sharing a kiss under a blooming cherry tree, which is believed to bring good luck in love. Many towns also raise a maypole made from a tall tree and gather for music and dancing.



1) What trees are often blooming during May Day?

☐ cherry trees ☐ pine trees

☐ cedar trees ☐ fruit trees

2) Sharing a kiss under a blooming cherry tree is believed to bring what?

☐ good luck ☐ a basket of flowers

☐ a new cherry tree ☐ a spring parade

3) What do people gather around to dance?

☐ a fountain ☐ a maypole

☐ a playground slide ☐ a picnic table



Name: _____ May Day Around the World L2

Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic, May Day is a spring holiday. Some people celebrate by sharing a kiss under a blooming cherry tree, which is believed to bring good luck in love. Many towns also raise a maypole made from a tall tree and gather for music and dancing.



1) What trees are often blooming during May Day?

2) Sharing a kiss under a blooming cherry tree is believed to bring what?

3) What do people gather around to dance?

Name: _____ May Day Around the World L3

Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic, May Day is a spring holiday. Some people celebrate by sharing a kiss under a blooming cherry tree, which is believed to bring good luck in love. Many towns also raise a maypole made from a tall tree and gather for music and dancing.



1) What trees are often blooming during May Day?

2) Sharing a kiss under a blooming cherry tree is believed to bring what?

3) What do people gather around to dance?

3
levels!



10
countries!



Name: _____ May Day Around the World LJ



England

In England, May Day celebrations often include a maypole dance. Children hold long ribbons and dance around the pole. People also enjoy Morris dancing, which is a traditional folk dance. Many communities celebrate outdoors in parks or village greens.

1) What do kids hold during the maypole dance?

- ☐ flower pots ☐ long ribbons
☐ paper fans ☐ small flags

2) What is Morris dancing?

- ☐ a painting activity ☐ a boat race
☐ a traditional folk dance ☐ a cooking contest

3) Where do many celebrations take place?

- ☐ in parks or village greens ☐ inside restaurants and shops
☐ in libraries ☐ at train stations

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Name: _____ May Day Around the World LJ



Finland

In Finland, May Day is called Vappu. People celebrate with parades and music. Many people wear white student caps during the holiday. Families and friends gather together to enjoy the festive day.

1) What is May Day called in Finland?

- ☐ Vappu ☐ Valborg
☐ Fiesta Day ☐ Firework Day

2) What do many people wear?

- ☐ white student caps ☐ red scarves
☐ flower crowns ☐ winter coats

3) What do people watch during the celebration?

- ☐ fishing contests ☐ snow races
☐ parades ☐ boat rides

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Name: _____ May Day Around the World LJ



France

In France, May Day is called La Fête du Muguet. People give small bouquets of lily of the valley flowers to friends and family. These flowers are believed to bring good luck. Many flower stands sell the flowers on May 1.

1) What flowers are given on May Day in France?

- ☐ sunflowers ☐ lily of the valley
☐ purple tulips ☐ red roses

2) Who do people give the flowers to?

- ☐ friends and family ☐ only teachers
☐ new tourists ☐ police officers

3) What are the flowers believed to bring?

- ☐ heavy snow ☐ lots of rain
☐ beautiful music ☐ good luck

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Name: _____ May Day Around the World LJ



Germany

In Germany, people celebrate May Day by dancing around a tall pole called a maypole. The pole is often decorated with colorful ribbons and flowers. In many towns, people sing songs and enjoy music together. This celebration welcomes spring.

1) What do people dance around in Germany?

- ☐ a fountain ☐ a maypole
☐ a statue ☐ a bonfire

2) What decorates the maypole?

- ☐ ribbons and flowers ☐ balloons and lights
☐ snowflakes and bells ☐ flags and lanterns

3) What season does the celebration welcome?

- ☐ summer ☐ fall
☐ spring ☐ winter

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Name: _____ May Day Around the World LJ



Greece

In Greece, May Day is a spring celebration called Protomagia. People often make flower wreaths using fresh spring flowers. They hang the wreaths on their doors or balconies. The wreaths celebrate the beauty of spring.

1) What is the Greek May Day celebration called?

- ☐ Vappu ☐ Valborg
☐ Fiesta de los Mayos ☐ Protomagia

2) What do people make for the celebration?

- ☐ clay statues ☐ paper lanterns
☐ wooden masks ☐ flower wreaths

3) Where do people hang the wreaths?

- ☐ on doors and balconies ☐ on playground fences
☐ on buses ☐ on classroom walls

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Level
1

Name: _____

May Day Around
the World L2

Ireland

In Ireland, May Day traditions celebrate spring and new growth. Long ago, people decorated bushes or small trees with colorful ribbons and flowers. These were called May bushes. Families also spent time together enjoying the holiday.

1) What do May Day traditions in Ireland celebrate?

2) What did people decorate?

3) What were the decorated bushes or trees called?

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Name: _____

May Day Around
the World L2

Italy

In Italy, many people celebrate May Day with concerts and gatherings. A famous concert is held in the city of Rome. People listen to music and celebrate together. The day is also a public holiday.

1) What event do many people attend in Italy?

2) In what city is a famous concert held?

3) What kind of day is May Day in Italy?

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Name: _____

May Day Around
the World L2

Sweden

In Sweden, May Day is called Valborg. People gather outside to watch large bonfires. Communities sing songs to welcome spring. Families and friends often celebrate together in the evening.

1) What is May Day called in Sweden?

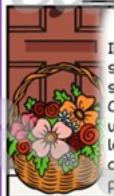
2) What do people watch during the celebration?

3) What do people sing to welcome?

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Name: _____

May Day Around
the World L2

United States

In the United States, May Day is sometimes celebrated with a fun spring tradition called a May basket. Children make small baskets filled with flowers or treats. They quietly leave the basket on a neighbor's door. Then they run away before the person opens the door.

1) What do children sometimes make for May Day?

2) What do children put in the baskets?

3) Where do children leave the baskets?

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May Day Around
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1) What trees are often blooming during May Day?

2) Sharing a kiss under a blooming cherry tree is believed to bring what?

3) What do people gather around to dance?

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Level 2

Name: _____

May Day Around the World L3

England



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1) What do kids hold during the maypole dance?

2) What is Morris dancing?

3) Where do many celebrations take place?

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Name: _____

May Day Around the World L3

Finland



In Finland, May Day is called Vappu. People celebrate with parades and music. Many people wear white student caps during the holiday. Families and friends gather together to enjoy the festive day.

1) What is May Day called in Finland?

2) What do many people wear?

3) What do people watch during the celebration?

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Name: _____

May Day Around the World L3

France



In France, May Day is called La Fête du Muguet. People give small bouquets of lily of the valley flowers to friends and family. These flowers are believed to bring good luck. Many flower stands sell the flowers on May 1.

1) What flowers are given on May Day in France?

2) Who do people give the flowers to?

3) What are the flowers believed to bring?

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May Day Around the World L3

Germany



In Germany, people celebrate May Day by dancing around a tall pole called a maypole. The pole is often decorated with colorful ribbons and flowers. In many towns, people sing songs and enjoy music together. This celebration welcomes spring.

1) What do people dance around in Germany?

2) What decorates the maypole?

3) What season does the celebration welcome?

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May Day Around the World L3

Greece



In Greece, May Day is a spring celebration called Protomagia. People often make flower wreaths using fresh spring flowers. They hang the wreaths on their doors or balconies. The wreaths celebrate the beauty of spring.

1) What is the Greek May Day celebration called?

2) What do people make for the celebration?

3) Where do people hang the wreaths?

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Level
3

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Finland

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2) What do many people wear?

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☐ flower crowns ☐ winter coats

3) What do people watch during the celebration?

- ☐ fishing contests ☐ snow races
☐ parades ☐ boat rides

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**Low
prep!**

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

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1) What flowers are given on May Day in France?

- ☐ sunflowers ☐ lily of the valley
☐ purple tulips ☐ red roses

2) Who do people give the flowers to?

- ☐ friends and family ☐ only teachers
☐ new tourists ☐ police officers

3) What are the flowers believed to bring?

- ☐ heavy snow ☐ lots of rain
☐ beautiful music ☐ good luck

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Name: _____ May Day Around the World L2



Greece

In Greece, May Day is a spring celebration called Protomagia. People often make flower wreaths using fresh spring flowers. They hang the wreaths on their doors or balconies. The wreaths celebrate the beauty of spring.

1) What is the Greek May Day celebration called?

2) What do people make for the celebration?

3) Where do people hang the wreaths?

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Name: _____ May Day Around the World L3



Sweden

In Sweden, May Day is called valborg. People gather outside to watch large bonfires. Communities sing songs to welcome spring. Families and friends often celebrate together in the evening.

1) What is May Day called in Sweden?

2) What do people watch during the celebration?

3) What do people sing to welcome?

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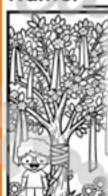
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Name: _____ May Day Around the World L2



Ireland

In Ireland, May Day traditions celebrate spring and new growth. Long ago, people decorated bushes or small trees with colorful ribbons and flowers. These were called May bushes. Families also spent time together enjoying the holiday.

1) What do May Day traditions in Ireland celebrate?

2) What did people decorate?

3) What were the decorated bushes or trees called?

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**B&W
included!**

Name: **ANSWER-KEY** May Day Around the World L1



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Name: **ANSWER-KEY** May Day Around the World L2



France

In France, May Day is called La Fête du Muguet. People give small bouquets of lily of the valley flowers to friends and family. These flowers are believed to bring good luck. Many flower stands sell the flowers on May 1.

1) What flowers are given on May Day in France?

Bouquets of lily of the valley flowers are given on May Day.

2) Who do people give the flowers to?

People give flowers to their friends and family.

3) What are the flowers believed to bring?

These flowers are believed to bring good luck.

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Name: **ANSWER KEY** May Day Around the World L3



France

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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

SPRING READING COMPREHENSION!

Name: Christopher St. Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick

Saint Patrick worked as a shepherd in Ireland. He later became a missionary, who shared his religious beliefs with others. He used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity. Today, people celebrate Saint Patrick's Day on March 17th.

1) What did Saint Patrick become?

☐ a baker ☒ a missionary

☐ a farmer ☐ all of these

2) What did he use to explain the Holy Trinity?

☒ shamrocks ☐ a triangle

☐ a crown ☐ a pyramid

3) What day do we celebrate St. Patrick's Day?

☐ March 25th ☐ March 7th

☒ March 17th ☐ March 19th

Name: Ophelia Earth Day L2

Recycling

Recycling is a way to help the Earth. Paper, plastic, and metal can be recycled. These items are turned into new things instead of being thrown away. Recycling helps reduce trash. It also saves energy and resources. This keeps our planet clean.

1) What items can be recycled?

Paper, plastic, and metal

2) What happens to recycled items?

Recycled items are turned into new things

3) How does recycling help the Earth?

Recycling helps the Earth

DIFFERENTIATED READING COMPREHENSION

READING COMP BUNDLE!

Name: Tyrone Native American Heritage L1

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 L2

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

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