



Marietta City Schools

District Unit Planner

Kindergarten Social Studies

Theme	<i>Unit 4: Celebrating Culture</i>	Unit duration (Days)	<i>12 - 25 Days</i>
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GSE Standards

SSKG1 - Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.

SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated.

- a. Christmas
- j. Thanksgiving Day
- k. Veteran's Day

SSKE4 Explain that people must make choices because they cannot have everything they want.

Information Processing Skills:

- 1. compare similarities and differences
- 3. identify issues/problems and alternative Solutions

Themes and Enduring Understandings:

Culture: The student will understand culture is how people think, act, celebrate, and make rules, and that it is what makes a group of people special

Individuals, Groups and Institutions: The student will understand that what people, groups, and institutions say and do can help or harm others whether they mean to or not.

Scarcity: The student will understand that because people cannot have everything they want, they have to make choices.

Essential Questions

Factual—

What holidays does your family celebrate?
What holidays does our country recognize?
What is gratitude?
Why do we have to make choices?

Inferential—

How do we celebrate together as a class?
How can we show gratitude to people who help us at school, community, and country?
What happens when everyone disagrees about a choice?

Critical Thinking-

Why are holidays important to us?
Why do we recognize and thank people who help us?
How do our choices affect other people?

Tier II Words- High Frequency Multiple Meaning

Tier III Words- Subject/ Content Related Words

diversity
customs
celebrations
choices
national
holidays

Christmas
Thanksgiving
Veteren’s Day
culture
scarcity (for students who are ready for the term)

Assessments

Summative Assessment(s):

Celebrating Culture Unit Anticipation Guide and Assessment
This assessment is designed as a pre/post task. Teachers will read the statements and have students circle the agree or disagree icon before and after teaching the unit.
Standards: All GSE for this Unit.
*Teachers can access the anticipation guides via the grade level Schoology Group.

Theme Based Writing Task and Rubric:

[Being Thankful on Veterans Day](#) Students will identify Veterans Day and describe people and/or events celebrated. They will then create a thank you card for a military veteran.

Standards:

SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. k. Veterans Day

[We Give Thanks](#) Students will create a card for someone they are Thankful for this Thanksgiving.

Standards:

SSKG1 - Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.

SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. j. Thanksgiving Day

Objective or Content	Learning Experiences	Differentiation Considerations
<p>Teacher resources and supports</p> <p>Teachers: The lessons in this unit are designed to take several days and to be incorporated into activities you enjoy doing with your students. Also, the GSE focus is on Christmas as the National Holiday, however SSKG1 and the SS Themes support investigating diverse celebrations. Consider including Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Ramadan, and other celebrations to ensure every student voice is present in your lessons and celebrations. Literature suggestions are provided in the <i>Additional Resources Section</i> of this planner to support your work. For additional suggestions or support with planning reach out to the SS Coordinator.</p>	<p>Parent Information Letter- edit for school specific information Click here for MCS Instruction Overview Video Click here for a DOE Content Video Click here for an additional content video Teacher Notes for this unit Additional unit information may be found at the GADOE GPS Landing Page</p>	
<p>SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. K. Veterans Day</p>	<p>Why We Celebrate Veterans Day Reinforces why we celebrate Veterans Day using additional activities of the teacher's choice or those not utilized in the recorded/previous lesson. Students will brainstorm ways to thank veterans and write a thank you card to a veteran or service member and/or create a paper plate poppy to use as their thank you card.</p>	<p>Students may draw pictures on their graphic organizer, provide several strips of paper with statements that are true and false about Veterans Day for students to sort and glue to their graphic organizer.</p>

<p>SSKG1 - Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.</p> <p>SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. j. Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>Exploring the First Thanksgiving Explore everyday life of the Wampanoag and Plymouth colonists, as well as the description of the 1621 feast from the only existing written source.</p>	<p>Provide discussion starters. Share multiple examples of captions and/or titles or provide practice with photos that are more familiar to students.</p>
<p>SSKG1 - Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.</p> <p>SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. j. Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>Ways We Celebrate Compare the Pilgrims' first Thanksgiving to how student families might celebrate today.</p>	<p>Provide individual support for understanding as needed. Work in small groups for discussions. Provide sentence starters for writing.</p>
<p>SSKG1 - Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.</p>	<p>A Classroom Celebration (making choices) Many schools choose to have a celebration of sorts on the last day of school before the winter break or a celebration to celebrate a class milestone. This activity is designed to help students have a hand in planning that celebration</p>	<p>As students discuss the concepts of making choices and scarcity, create a list of word cards to use while writing.</p>
<p>SSKG1 - Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.</p> <p>SSKH1- Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated. a. Christmas</p>	<p>Introducing Winter Holidays and Christmas Students will explore Chinese New Year, Christmas, Ramadan, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. Tasks include a graphic organizer with pictures and descriptions for each celebration/holiday for students to label and draw their family holiday tradition/celebration.</p>	<p>Provide writing scaffolds: Examples: My Family Celebrates _____ My Family Eats _____ I would like to _____</p>
<p>SSKG1 - Describe the diversity of American culture by explaining the customs and celebrations of various families and communities.</p>	<p>Another Celebration Another Celebration is modeled after the Ways We Celebrate Thanksgiving activity and integrates human graphing to practice that skill.</p>	<p>Provide individual support for understanding as needed. Work in small groups for discussions. Provide sentence starters for writing.</p>

SSKH1 Identify the national holidays and describe the people and/or events celebrated.

a. Christmas

Recommended High Quality Complex Texts

The Poppy Lady by Moina Belle Michael
H is for Honor A Military Family Alphabet by Devin Scillian
Veterans Day by Mir Tamim Ansary
Samuel Eaton’s Day, Tapenum’s Day, and Sarah Morton’s Day, all by Kate Waters
Olive: The Other Reindeer by J. Otto Seibold and Vivian Walsh
The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg
Alexander, Who Used to be Rich Last Sunday by Judith Viorst
A Chair for My Mother by Vera B. Williams
Bunny Money by Mary Ann Wells

The GSE focuses on Christmas as a national holiday- teachers may choose to extend the study to focus on themes (Culture and Individuals, Groups, and Institutions) to learn about the diverse ways our families celebrate their holidays.

La Noche Buena: A Christmas Story by Antonio Sacre
Lil Rabbit’s Kwanzaa by Donna L. Washington
Lailah’s Lunchbox: A Ramadan Story by Reem Faruqi
How Do Dinosaurs Say Happy Chanukah? by Jane Yolen

DE videos and resources:

[DE American Holidays and Traditions](#)

[DE Holiday Facts and Fun: Veteran’s Day](#)

[Citizens Rule: Symbols and Celebrations of America](#)

[National Holidays DE Board](#)

