

Celebrations of harvest festivals of India

For Advance Level

Students watch You Tube video(s) and read the article(s) about the celebrations of the various harvest festivals of India - Pola Parv, Bihu and Onam. They learn also know about how do these festivals are celebrated; what kind of dances and musical instruments are played; what kind of food is eaten and their importance in our life. Students describe these festivals, discuss in great detail the comparison between these celebrations with the harvest festival of USA

"Thanksgiving". They make a greeting card for their parents and also write a letter to their parents describing about one of these festival. In small groups, they can discuss the cultural reasons behind eating some specific food items only about "Dalhan" and "Tilhan" during these festivals including their food nutritional values. Students will do a panel discussion about using recyclable material like "Kele ke pattoN/Peepal ke pattoN kii banii pattaleiN" for eating food rather than using paper plates or Styrofoam plates. Their panel discussion will be video recorded and will be played for visitors during the science exhibition for the parents and community on the last day of the camp. Students will also represent an NGO which is encouraging cooperative factories to make biodegradable plates and other utensils and work in groups to design the NGOs' brochure and create PowerPoint presentation. They display and present their work in the science exhibition during cultural night.

Targeted Standards

- 1.1 Interpersonal Communications
- 1.2 Interpretive Communications
- 1.3 Presentational Communication

- 2.1 Practice of Culture
- 2.2 Products of Culture

- 3.1 Making Connections
- 3.2 Acquiring Information

- 4.2 Cultural Comparisons

- 5.1 School and Community

How the Standards are met

- 1.1 Students ask and answer simple questions, and compare and contrast Harvest festivals celebrations with the harvest festival of USA "Thanksgiving".
- 1.2 Students watch You Tube videos and listen to the story about harvest festival celebrations.
- 1.3 Students fill in Venn diagram, make a storybook or cartoon/comic strip for children on "Harvest festivals of India" with lot of illustrations or make a musical instrument played during the celebrations.

- 2.1 Students become aware of how various harvest festivals are celebrated.

2.2 Students learn about Indian cultural products associated with these festivals like, “Bail”, “Gau mata”, “dhol” , BaaNsuri”, various dances, sweets and food items, etc.

3.1 Students expand their knowledge about world culture and arts.

3.2 Students enhance their knowledge about harvest festival celebrations through Pola, Onam, Bihu.

4.2 Students compare practices of India’s harvest festivals with Thanksgiving festival of USA.

5.1 Students exhibits their works, perform skits/advertisement with their friends and parents in the camp.