Winter Holidays

Grade Level: 7-12

Subject/Content: Social Studies/World Religions/Anthropology

Summary of Lesson: Students will compare and contrast winter holidays celebrated within the United States and around the world

Focus Question: What do various holidays have in common and how are they different?

Resource(s): Student Resources In Context

Procedures by Teacher:

1. Arrange for access to the resource
2. Provide time for research
3. Copy comparison chart worksheet

Holiday Comparison Chart

Directions: Use Student Resources In Context to complete this chart comparing winter holidays. Use the research you gather to answer these questions. You may use additional paper if necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Group(s) Who Celebrate It</th>
<th>Places Celebrated</th>
<th>Historical Background</th>
<th>Traditions (How It’s Celebrated)</th>
<th>Meaning or Significance of the Celebration</th>
<th>Symbols</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chanukah</td>
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<td>Christmas</td>
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<td>Kwanzaa</td>
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<td>Ramadan &amp; Eid ul-Fitr</td>
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<td>Winter Solstice</td>
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</table>

Steps/Activities by Student(s):

1. Use the online resource to complete the Holiday Comparison Chart
2. Use the information gathered to complete the follow-up questions
Holiday Comparison Chart Follow-Up Questions

- What do these holidays/celebrations have in common? (For example: most are related to an organized religious group)
- What differences do you see that could potentially cause conflict between the people who celebrate these holidays?

Outcome: Students will have a greater understanding of the meaning behind various winter celebrations, what they have in common and how they are different

Related Activities: Students may choose one aspect of a celebration researched and bring in the materials to share it with the class (examples: teach the class to play dreidel, bring in a Koran and show how to pray)

Content Standard(s):

- Analyze and explain the ways groups, societies and cultures address human needs and concerns
- Predict how data and experiences may be interpreted by people from diverse cultural perspectives and frames of reference
- Compare and analyze societal patterns for preserving and transmitting culture while adapting to environmental or social change
- Investigate, interpret and analyze multiple historical and contemporary viewpoints within and across cultures related to important events, recurring dilemmas, and persistent issues, while employing empathy, skepticism and critical judgment

Performance Indicators:

- At Level 1, the student is able to:
  - Identify the characteristics of each holiday researched.
- At Level 2, the student is able to:
  - Analyze the similarities and differences between these holidays.
- At Level 3, the student is able to:
  - Evaluate the impact of these holidays on modern religious based conflict.
Computer Literacy and Usage Standards 9-12:

- Predict how data and experiences may be interpreted by people from diverse cultural perspectives and frames of reference
- Demonstrate the value of cultural diversity, as well as cohesion, within and across groups
- Describe the ways family, religion, gender, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status and other group and cultural influences contribute to the development of a sense of self

ISTE NETS for Students

- Develop cultural understanding and global awareness by engaging with learners of other cultures
- Plan strategies to guide inquiry
- Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media
- Process data and report results

Information Power; Information Literacy Standards 1-4:

- Select and apply technology tools for research, information analysis, problem solving and decision making in content learning