



A Cross-Cultural Comparison of Eastern
Asian Holidays and Celebrations

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Application for Eastern Asia Mini-Grant

From:

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Rationale:

The Eastern Asian Mini Grant project is needed at Little River to support our ongoing anthropology program. Studying Eastern Asian Holidays will be an important addition to the program because students will learn how to compare and contrast cultures and will be able to carry that knowledge and understanding into studies of other cultures. Also, we have three Asian students attending our school. This project will assist them and other students in learning more about their heritage.

Students will learn about different cultures of Eastern Asia by comparing and contrasting celebrations and holidays of each country with seasonal celebrations of ancient Europe and Asia. Students will use research, teamwork and empathetic, analytical, graphing, writing, listening and artistic skills to complete this project. Students will have a greater knowledge about holidays around the world. They will also understand how they relate to seasons and ancient seasonal celebrations. Students will be empathetic to different people and their cultures. This project promotes self awareness as well as personal relationships to the earth and seasons.

Design:

Using resource and story books, video recordings, the internet and first person accounts, students will work in teams to research the major holidays and celebrations of an Eastern Asian country. They will also research ancient customs of Europe and Asia related to seasonal celebrations.

Students will write a detailed report describing each major holiday and the ancient seasonal celebration it relates to.

The teams will each choose one of the holidays from their country and create a detailed poster depicting the holiday. They will also make a food following a traditional recipe

and ornamental decoration from that holiday. The food along with the reports will be presented to the parents at an “all school meeting.”

The whole class will create a chart listing each seasonal celebration and the major holidays of the Eastern Asian countries that relate to those holidays.

While working on their projects, students will listen to music from Eastern Asia. The classroom will become an environment that is steeped in Eastern Asian influences.

Timeline:

1. Teacher prep: purchasing books and resources.
Four hours: needs to be done at the end of July.

2. Teacher prep: planning project out for students
Two hours: during month of August

3. Teams will use resource books, story books, video recordings, the internet and first person accounts to research their country. They will take notes from each resource.
Six hours: three weeks with two 1 hour periods each week.

4. Teams will create an outline using the information from their notes.
Two hours: one week with two 1 hour periods.

5. Students will write their reports using their outlines and notes. The report will be edited and typed on the computer.
Six hours: three weeks with two 1 hour periods each week.

6. Students will choose one holiday from their country. They will create a poster depicting the holiday.
Two hours: one week with two 1 hour periods

7. Each team will create a chart showing each major holiday for their country. They will write why and how it is celebrated.
Two hours: one week with two 1 hour periods.

8. Students will study and research Ancient European and Ancient Asian Seasonal celebrations.
Four hours: two weeks using two 1 hour periods.

9. The whole class will create charts showing ancient seasonal celebrations for Europe and Asia.
Two hours: one week using two 1 hour periods.

10. The charts will be taped together to create a large presentation.
One hour: one 1 hour period.

11. Teams will cook a food and make a decoration from the celebration they choose.
Two hours: one week with two one hour periods

12. The class will make a presentation reading their reports, showing their posters and presenting the charts, serving the food and showing off their decorations to their parents at an all school meeting.
One hour at an 'All-School Meeting'

Total for actual project: fifteen weeks (This will account for classes missed for breaks or field trips)

This project will begin the second week of school September 2006 and continue through December 2006.

July 2006	August 2006
1. Teachers order books, videos and music	2. Teachers plan project.
September 2006	October 2006
3. Students research and take notes	5. Students will write a rough draft, edit and type their reports.
4. Students will create an outline using their notes.	6. Students will choose a holiday and create a poster.
November 2006	December 2006
7. Students will create a chart showing each major holiday and they will include why each is celebrated.	9. The whole class will create charts showing the ancient celebrations.
8. Students will study and research ancient European and Ancient Asian seasonal celebrations	10. The charts will all be taped together
	11. The students will cook food and make decorations from the celebration they choose.
	12. Students will make presentations to parents at an 'all school' meeting

Assessment:

All assessment will be through teacher observation of the following criteria:

Teams worked together successfully to produce notes, a written report, a poster, food and chart of their country's holiday.

The report that each team produced was well organized and follows instructions given.

The posters were visually attractive and followed the guidelines given.

The students followed a recipe and produced an edible food.

The teams produced a visually appealing, organized chart showing their country's holidays.

The teams communicated their projects to the parent audience accurately.

Each student was able to verbally name three festivals or celebrations from their country.

Each student was able to verbally name two ancient seasonal celebrations.

Each student was able to verbally connect one holiday from their country to an ancient seasonal celebration.

Budget: \$997.18

Project development: \$240.00

Teacher planning: 2 hrs @ \$40/hr = 80.00

Teacher, ordering, acquiring and preparing materials: 4 hrs @ \$40/hr = 160.00

Durable Materials: \$537.18

Videos: 84.97

Asia Video Reports: Japan Festivals and Holidays = 25.00

Video Visits: Philippines = 19.99

Video Visits: Indonesia = 19.99

Video Visits: Thailand = 19.99

Videos will be viewed to increase the students understanding of Eastern Asia. This will be valuable to students who are more visually oriented.

Tapes and CD's: 72.70

Chinese Traditional Pipa Music= 11.49

Best of China and Japan= 6.69

Asia Music = 25.85

Asian Roots = 10.69

Holding up the sky; Voices of Asian Women = 17.98

Music will be a large part of the classroom environment while students are working on their projects. This will be another sensory stimulant for students who excel through auditory skills.

Resource Books: 379.51

People and Nations of the Far East and Pacific= 25.95

Carp for Kimiko=6.95

China Festivals of World Series =24.69

Indonesia=24.67

Sori's Harvest Moon Day=5.95

Vietnam=24.67

Cambodia=30.00

Cambodia; Enchantment of World Series= 36.00

Japanese Calendar=13.60

Festivals Together=27.20

Asian Holidays=16.74

Moonbeams, Dumplings and Dragon Boats= 14.40

China= 6.95

Japan=9.78

South Korea=24.67

Philippines=24.67

Malaysia=6.95

Singapore=37.07

Thailand=18.60

Each of these books will be used by the students to research each country's holidays and festivals for this particular project. Some of these are storybooks and will be used as oral reading to the younger students as well as research books. These will also be available for future Eastern Asian projects in our classrooms. The books will be part of our permanent collection, cataloged and will be made available to home schoolers and other teachers to borrow.

Expendable Materials: 220.00

Poster board = 25.00

Paint = 25.00

Markers = 10.00

These items will be used to create the team's posters about their holidays and festivals. They will also be used in the final chart comparing the Asian Holidays to Ancient Seasonal Holidays.

Food = 100.00

The food will be purchased by each team according to the recipe they choose.

Materials for decorations = 50.00

These will be used to create the decoration for the team's holiday.

Copies = 10.00

Final Product:

The students' written reports, posters and final chart comparing and contrasting holidays will be displayed in the local library for other students and teachers to view.

All of the plans will be made available to other teachers as well as home school parents in the area. They will be clear and precise guidelines for completion of the project along with post project notes describing how the project could have been improved.

Home Schoolers:

All durable materials will be cataloged on the shelves at Little River Community School. They will be available upon request to home schoolers and other teachers. Little River has a strong connection with the home school community. Some of our students are home schooled part of their academic time. In addition, the school will reach out through advertising to home schoolers to let them know these resources are available. We will also create a page on our website advertising the availability of these resources. The teachers at Little River will advise Valerie White, the Children's Librarian at the Canton Free Library, that these materials are available to home schoolers and other teachers.