

Happy Birthday/Feliz Cumpleaños

Grade Level: 1-3

Content Areas: Social Studies, Music, Visual Arts and Language Arts

Time Frame: 90 to 120 minutes, which can be split into different time periods

MATERIALS

Books about celebrations and international festivities

Drawing paper and pencils

OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Learn customs, practices, symbols, languages and traditions of families around the world and the origins of significant days and holidays.
- Interprets information making comparisons and contrasts.
- Demonstrate appreciation for the music, dance and visual arts associated with celebrations and customs of different cultures and to learn different techniques for producing music, dance and artwork.

VOCABULARY:

Key vocabulary

Before reading, focus on vocabulary. Read the glossary words and their definitions.

Celebrate - To do something special or enjoyable for an important event, occasion, holiday, etc.

Festival - An organized series of acts and performances (usually in one place)

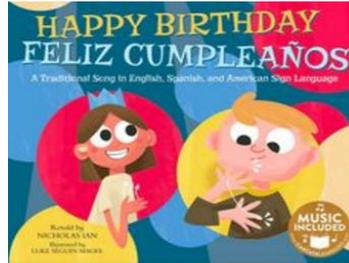
Customs - Something that is done regularly by a person

Origins - The point or place where something begins or is created: the source or cause of something

FREE SONG

[Click here](#) to download or stream the Happy Birthday/ Feliz Cumpleaños.

Find other Cantata Learning songs and books at <http://www.cantatalearning.com>.



PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES

Preparation:

Start by choosing books from the library or your classroom that can help students explore celebrations and international festivities. Also, create an example of a compare and contrast diagram that you would like your students to create.

Lesson Procedure:

1. Start by reading [Happy Birthday/ / Feliz Cumpleaños](#). Go through the vocabulary as well and ask students how and why people celebrate special days and events? Have students brainstorm and list their initial answers to this question.
2. Have students draw, on separate sheets of paper, images of different kinds of celebrations that are important to them or their family and list the feelings they have about each of these.
3. Ask students to share their information in groups, identifying whether all students celebrate the same days and/or events and whether they have the same or different feelings about these days and/or events.
4. Explore international festivities with students by completing a calendar of celebrations. Use print resource material, or discuss celebrations they have participated in. Students can draw a picture of the celebration.
5. As a class, see if you can find a celebration for every month of the year. Think about and research the purpose of the celebration, when and where it occurs, what types of food are eaten at this time, and how people celebrate this occasion or event.
6. Explain to students how to compare and contrast two celebrations pointing out that similarities are just as important as differences. Once students understand the concept of comparing and contrasting have students chose two celebrations that they would like to research in greater detail.
7. Pick two celebrations and research the similarities and differences between the two. Use a comparison and contrast diagram to help students gather and organize their information.
8. If you want to go more in depth on celebrations perhaps you can celebrate with a class party. Remember that there is lots of organization that goes into preparing for a celebration. There are invites to be made, food to be prepared, music to be organized and fun to be had!

Technology Extension

- Have students explore international festivities by gather information and images from the Internet.
- Students can use National Geographic Kids to learn more about celebrations around the world.
- Have students chose two celebrations that they would like to compare and contrast.
- Once students have gathered information on two celebrations have students create a Compare & Contrast Map.

Language Extension

- *Happy Birthday / Feliz Cumpleaños* includes Spanish and American sign language. These are great extensions for ESL and ELA.
- Here are [5 iPhone Apps to help teach your child sign language.](#)

Music and Art Extension

Create your own musical noisemakers as a fun music and art extension. [The Library Voice](#) has a great example of how to make your own noisemakers [here](#).

Standards:

- Social Studies Outcomes:
 - Identifies customs, practices, symbols, languages and traditions of their family and of other families.
 - Describes the cultural, linguistic and religious practices of their family, their community and of other communities.
 - Communicates the importance of past and present people, days and events in their life, in the lives of family and community members and in other communities.
 - Discovers the origins of significant days and holidays.
- English Outcomes:
 - CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.8 - Gathers information from sources including the World Wide Web.
 - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.9 - Interprets information making comparisons and contrasts.
- Visual and Performing Arts Outcomes:
 - Opportunities to appreciate the music, dance and visual arts associated with celebrations and customs of different cultures and to learn different techniques for producing their own music, dance and artwork.

