

Korean Holiday Calendar
Andrea Dumolt- East Asian Studies 3-9-2004

Purpose:

This lesson is intended to provide students the opportunity to research Korean Holidays and to compare these holidays with American Holidays.

Essential Questions:

1. Why does Korea celebrate holidays differently from the way holidays are celebrated in America?
2. Does the Christian holiday, Christmas, have as great of significance in Korea as it does in America?
3. What are similarities in holidays celebrated in Korea and America?
4. Why does Korea celebrate Buddha's birthday?
5. What is the significance of the Lunar New Year?

Target Grade Level:

Students with Special Needs 9-10

Topic:

Korean Holidays

Concepts:

Cultural awareness

Comparisons

Materials:

- Internet Access
- Handout #1: Instructions
- Handout #2: Blank calendar pages
- Handout #3: Recording sheet- make 10 copies for each student
- Markers, colored pencils, other needed materials
- Teacher background- list of Korean Holidays

Key Idea:

Koreans celebrate many holidays based on both the lunar and solar calendar. Some holidays are similar to the holidays celebrated in the U.S.A.

Skills:

Application: Given web addresses, and materials needed for the assignment students will create a Korean Holiday calendar.

Synthesis: Students will predict why Koreans celebrate holidays such as Christmas, New Years, and Arbor Day and do not celebrate holidays such as Easter and Thanksgiving.

Procedures:

1. Introduce the lesson by asking students what holidays they celebrate and like best. Have students brainstorm holidays they think are celebrated in Korea. List on the board.
2. To develop critical thinking skills ask students why Christmas does not have the same religious significance in Korea as it does for many Americans as well as the significance of the 4th of July and Thanksgiving. (Korea does not have as many Christians and Christmas is a Christian holiday, the U.S. gained Independence on July 4, 1776 from Great Britain, and Americans celebrated the first Thanksgiving with Native Americans). Discuss these holidays and encourage students to research a Korean “thanksgiving’ or Independence Day.
3. Handout instructions and explain they will research and compare Korean and American Holidays.
4. After the presentations discuss the relationship between the Korean and American holidays, such as the Korean Samil Independence Movement Day and America’s 4th of July, and the Korean Chuseok and the American Thanksgiving. Ask the students if they found any other similarities.

Evaluation:

Students will give oral presentation on their calendars with emphasis on one holiday they really like.

Grade Adaptation:

Elementary- Study one Korean Holiday during the month it is celebrated. Each student can create a pictorial representation of each holiday.

Relationship to Social Studies Standards:

Grade 9, People in Societies Strands, Strand II

Use knowledge of perspectives, practices of cultural, ethnic, and social groups to analyze the impact of their commonality and diversity within global settings.

Grade 9, People in Societies Strands, Grade level Indicator 1

Analyze examples of how people in different cultures view events from different perspectives.

Handout #1 Instructions

1. Locate information about 10 holidays celebrated in Korea using the following web addresses; google.com - search - Korean Holidays
www.asia-pacific-connections.com/Korean_national_holidays.htm
www.clickasia.co.kr/about/holiday.htm
2. Record information on why the holiday is celebrated- Handout #3
3. Create a calendar using 12 sheets of blank calendar pages by filling in the months and days of each. List each of the 10 holidays you choose. Either using clip art or a drawing decorate the calendar and write an explanation of the holiday on the calendar as well, refer to the information you recorded on Handout #3.
3. Oral presentation- you will give a short 3-5 minute presentation of your calendar.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

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List of Korean Holidays

New Year's

Lunar New Year's (at least two working days off are usually offered)

Independence Movement Day

Arbor Day

Children's Day

Buddha's Birthday

Constitution Day

Liberation Day

Chu-Sok (2-4 working days off are usually offered)

National Foundation Day

Christmas Day

Handout #3

Holiday _____

Date _____

6. What type of holiday? Religious, National, Wedding, Other.

7. What type of rituals are performed? Games. Foods

8. What attire is worn? Is there a special way they dress to celebrate the holiday?

4. Summary