

# Grade 1 Unit 4: Holidays

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies Grade 1**  
Time Period:  
Length: **10 days**  
Status: **Published**

## **NJSLS - Social Studies**

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SOC.6.1.2.CivicsDP.1	Explain how national symbols reflect on American values and principles.
SOC.6.1.2.CivicsDP.3	Explain how historical symbols, monuments and holidays reflect the shared values, principles, and beliefs of the American identity.
SOC.6.1.2.GeoSV.3	Identify and describe the properties of a variety of maps and globes (e.g., title, legend, cardinal directions, scale, symbols,) and purposes (way finding, thematic).
SOC.6.1.2.HistoryCC.1	Use multiple sources to create a chronological sequence of events that describes how and why your community has changed over time.
SOC.6.1.2.HistoryCC.2	Use a timeline of important events to make inferences about the "big picture" of history.
SOC.6.1.2.HistoryCC.3	Make inferences about how past events, individuals, and innovations affect our current lives.
SOC.6.1.2.HistoryUP.2	Use evidence to demonstrate how an individual's beliefs, values, and traditions may change and/or reflect more than one culture.

## **Rationale & Transfer Goals**

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First grade students will come into school with an understanding of holidays and traditions. During this unit students will understand the importance of celebrating these holidays and learn to honor people and events from these special days. Learners will take a look at a calendar and understand how to use one. Students will share family traditions and make connections with others.

## **Enduring Understandings**

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Students will be able to understand national holidays and the people and events honored on these special days.

## **Essential Questions**

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- What kinds of special events does your family celebrate? How do you celebrate these events?
- Do you know someone in our community that is a hero? What did this person do to be a hero?
- Does your family display a calendar or use a calendar on a smartphone or computer? What events do they put on the calendar? How do you use a calendar?
- What is one tradition your family has? What food is a tradition that your family prepares for a certain holiday?

## **Important Vocabulary**

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- celebrate
- national holiday
- hero
- president
- service work
- veteran
- calendar
- traditions

## **Content - What students will know**

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- National Holidays
- President's Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Cesar Chavez Day
- Memorial Day and Veterans
- A Year of Days
- Thanksgiving and Independence Day
- Holidays Through Time
- Flag Day and Constitution Day

## **Skills - What students will be able to do**

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- SWBAT Define a national holiday and describe the reason for them.
- SWBAT Explain the purpose of President's Day and Identify past U.S. Presidents
- SWBAT Discuss the heroism and achievements of two Americans and describe the qualities of a leader.
- SWBAT Identify the purpose of Veterans Day and Memorial Day and explain why we honor people of the armed forces.
- SWBAT Understand the features and uses of a calendar and record important dates.
- SWBAT Give examples of traditions and explain the importance of thanksgiving and independence day.
- SWBAT Understand ways that the present connects to the past and describe how national holidays change over time.
- SWBAT Recall how flag day became a national holiday and describe the importance of constitution day.

## **Instructional Activities - How we teach content and skills**

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- Citizenship Feature: Flag Day
- Reading Skill: Recall and Retell
- Chart and Graph Skill
- Unit 4 Magazine
- Little Thinkers Resource
- YouTube
- BrainPOP Jr
- Role Play

## **Evidence/Assessment - How we know students have learned**

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- Unit Assessment
- Benchmarks
- Teacher observation
- Class discussion
- informal assessments
- [Assessments](#)

## Spiraling for Mastery

Content or Skill for this Unit	Spiral Focus from Previous Unit	Instructional Activity
Students will see this information again when they see the magazine, U.S. Symbols and The American People.	Students should remember some of the information provided from last month's magazine The American People. Students should recall holidays that they have previously celebrated.	Students will make connections from their lives and from the previous lessons.

## Key Resources

- Unit 4 Magazine
- Youtube Videos
- Little Thinkers Resource
- Scholastic News Articles
- BrainPOP Jr.
- Literature: MLK books, The First Thanksgiving

## 21st Century Life & Careers

WRK.9.1.2.CAP.1                      Make a list of different types of jobs and describe the skills associated with each job.

## Career Readiness, Life Literacies, & Key Skills

TECH.9.4.2.CI.1                      Demonstrate openness to new ideas and perspectives (e.g., 1.1.2.CR1a, 2.1.2.EH.1, 6.1.2.CivicsCM.2).

TECH.9.4.2.GCA.1                      Articulate the role of culture in everyday life by describing one's own culture and comparing it to the cultures of other individuals (e.g., 1.5.2.C2a, 7.1.NL.IPERS.5, 7.1.NL.IPERS.6).

## Interdisciplinary Connections

LA.RL.1.2                              Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.

VA.K-2.1.5.2.Cr2c	Create art that represents natural and constructed environments. Identify and classify uses of everyday objects through drawings, diagrams, sculptures or other visual means including repurposing objects to make something new.
MU.K-2.1.3A.2.Pr6a	Perform music for a specific purpose with expression and technical accuracy.
MA.1.G.A.1	Distinguish between defining attributes (e.g., triangles are closed and three-sided) versus non-defining attributes (e.g., color, orientation, overall size); build and draw shapes to possess defining attributes.
HE.K-2.2.3.2.PS.2	Discuss healthy and safe choices both indoors and outdoors (e.g., using equipment, wearing bike helmets, vehicle, water, weather safety).

## **Intersections of History**

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The experiences of individuals of varying races, cultures, religions and orientations have shaped our world. This section will build upon students' knowledge of different holidays and traditions. They will explore specific groups and their customs by reading books and learning about individuals. Students will develop and build upon global awareness through current and past events.

**Black:** Students will read many pieces of literature about Martin Luther King Jr and discover the importance of celebrating the positive impact he made on our country. Students will see the impact of standing up for what is right and how they are capable of doing the same thing to help fight injustices.

**Hispanic:** Students will read *Our Favorite Day of the Year* by A. E. Ali and learn about a group of students and the different ways they celebrate holidays. Students will recognize the diverse classroom in the story and see the significance of learning about friend's cultures.

**Women:** Students will read the story *She Persisted* by Chelsea Clinton and learn that she was the first woman to run for president of the United States. Young girls will see that they are also capable of doing the same thing.

**LGBTQ:** Students will understand that we celebrate different groups during different months. Black History is celebrated in February. Hispanic History in October. Women's History in March and Pride Month in June.