



SCOPE & SEQUENCE
GR. 7 – SOCIAL STUDIES

Student Task

GRADE 7: Social Studies

TOPIC A: Culture

TOPIC C: A Bilingual And Multicultural Country

TASK: Webquest And Internet Research On Christmas Traditions

PRODUCTIVITY TOOL: Internet Research, Word Processor

TIMELINE: 3 Classes

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: Easy

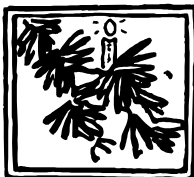
Christmas traditions by completing a webquest stored on the server. This is a simple collection of questions to summarize key points on a website entitled, “How Christmas Works – The Complete Guide to Christmas Traditions!” Students learn to summarize key points from a website as one method of doing research. They are then asked to explore one Christmas tradition in detail by finding other relevant sites, commenting on the relevance of the accessed information, and evaluating, in general, the validity of information on the World Wide Web.

WEBSITES:

How Christmas Works – The Complete Guide to Christmas Traditions!”

<http://howstuffworks.com/christmas.htm>

This site provides the student with the origin of many of our Christmas traditions.



ICT Outcomes

The learner will:

- C1** 3.1 plan and conduct a search, using a wide variety of electronic resources
- 3.2 refine searches to limit sources to a manageable number
- 3.4 access and retrieve information through the electronic network
- 3.5 analyze and synthesize information to create a product
- C2** 3.1 access diverse viewpoints on particular topics by using appropriate technologies
- 3.3 use information technology to find facts that support or refute diverse viewpoints
- C3** 3.2 evaluate the relevance of electronically accessed information to a particular topic
- C4** 3.1 create a plan for an inquiry that includes consideration of time management
- 3.2 develop a process to manage volumes of information that can be available through electronic sources
- 3.3 demonstrate the advanced search skills necessary to limit the number of hits desired for online and offline databases; for example, the use of “and” and “or” between search topics and the choice of appropriate search engines for the topic
- C5** 3.1 access, retrieve and share information from electronic sources, such as common files
- F1** 3.1 demonstrate an understanding that information can be transmitted through a variety of media
- 3.3 apply terminology appropriate to the technology being used at this division level
- F2** 3.7 analyze and assess the impact on society of having limitless access to information
- F3** 3.4 cite sources when using copyright and/or public domain material
- P5** 3.2 demonstrate proficient use of various information retrieval technologies
- P6** 3.2 demonstrate proficiency in accessing local area network, wide area network and Internet services, including uploading and downloading text, image, audio and video files





Curriculum Outcomes

GRADE 7: Social Studies

TOPIC A: Culture

TOPIC C: A Bilingual And Multicultural Country

TASK: Webquest And Internet Research On Christmas Traditions

TOPIC A: Culture

Knowledge Objectives, Bullets 2 and 3

- Socialization is achieved through interaction with others. Concepts: socialization (religion, customs, traditions)
- Beliefs and values influence behavior. Concepts: beliefs/values (religion, home)

Skill Objectives, Process Skills, Bullets 3, 4 and 9

- acquire information to find answers to questions through listening, observing, reading and utilizing community resources
- differentiate between main and related ideas
- make notes that outline the main and related ideas from reading and while listening and observing—with teacher assistance

Attitude Objectives, Bullet 4

- respect for the rights, needs, opinions and concerns of self and others.

TOPIC C: A Bilingual And Multicultural Country

Knowledge Objectives, Bullets 2 and 3

- Cultural heritage is part of an individual's identity. Concepts: cultural heritage (beliefs/values, customs, traditions, legends/stories)
- Canada's population is made up of a variety of cultural groups. Concepts: country of origin

Skill Objectives, Process Skills, Bullets 3, 4 and 9

- acquire information to find answers to questions through listening, observing, reading and utilizing community resources
- differentiate between main and related ideas
- make notes that outline the main and related ideas from reading and while listening and observing—with teacher assistance

Attitude Objectives, Bullet 4

- respect for the rights, needs, opinions and concerns of self and others.



SOCIAL 7 – CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS – A PART OF OUR CULTURE

Answer the following questions by researching using the Internet. “How Christmas Works – The Complete Guide to Christmas Traditions!” at www.howstuffworks.com/christmas.htm will help you find many of the answers.

1. What is Christmas? Where does the word “Christmas” come from?

When and where was Christmas first celebrated?

2. Why is Christmas such a big deal? List 2 reasons.

3. Who were the Magi? Why do people give each other presents on Christmas day?

4. Why was the date for Christmas set to December 25th?

5. What country began the tradition of putting a small evergreen tree in your living room?
What year did this tradition begin?

6. Who was the first person to put candles or lights on a Christmas tree?

Before that time, name two items that people used to decorate their Christmas tree.

7. What institution suggested holly as a substitute for mistletoe? Why?



8. What do the pointed leaves of the holly symbolize?

What do the red berries of the holly symbolize?

9. Where may our tradition of kissing under the mistletoe come from?

10. Name SEVEN things included in the Nativity Scene that come from the Book of Matthew and Luke in the Bible.

11. Where does the word “Yule” come from? And what does it mean?

12. From which country does the poinsettia originate?

13. Give two reasons why alcohol was first put into fruitcake.

14. Explain how the tradition of Christmas stockings began.

15. From what country did the tradition come of putting a “lump of coal” in the stocking of naughty children?



16. From what country did the tradition of sending Christmas cards originate?

17. Name SIX traditional Christmas Carols that you know and/or enjoy singing at this time of year.

18. When are the twelve days of Christmas?

19. Which two events may be marked by Epiphany?

20. What poem became the basis for our current depiction of Santa Claus?

Who was the author? _____

When was it written? _____

21. Name three important facts about the original St. Nicholas.

22. Coca-Cola™ also played a role in the Santa image by running a set of paintings by Haddon Sundblom in its ads between _____ and _____.

23. Why is Santa's suit red and white?

24. Where did the name Rudolf come from?



25. Why does the word Christmas sometimes get spelled with an X? When and where did this tradition begin?
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PART B

26. Search Encarta on the network (found in the “Common Applications” folder) to find out three interesting facts about Christmas.
27. Is this information the same as or different from the information found on the website? Explain your answer.
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PART C

Using a search engine such as Yahoo (www.yahoo.com) or AltaVista (www.altavista.com), find three websites that substantiate or refute one of the Christmas traditions mentioned above. List the title of the website, the URL using accepted cite format, as well as pertinent information found there. Comment on the usefulness of each of the sites listed. The following is the correct citation for a bibliographic reference for a URL.

[Online: How Christmas Works. www.howstuffworks.com/christmas.htm. Accessed: 19 December 1999].

