

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

Lesson Plan

Celebration Conversations

Lesson Plan for *Passover*

Grade 2

Objective

To help students practice recalling and discussing key details from a chapter read aloud.

Things Needed

- *Passover* book

Before the Activity

Read Chapter 3 (“The Days of Passover”) of *Passover* out loud to the class.

Activity

Chapter 3 (“The Days of Passover”) describes the rituals and traditions Jews perform during each day of Passover. Ask students list some of the ways people celebrate Passover. (Answers: Jews honor the first and last days with complete rest. These days are considered holy. Jews honor the middle days with celebrations. Some families go to museums, parks, or synagogues. People don’t eat leavened grains during the holiday.)

Then, turn to the “Celebrating Passover” timeline on pages 22 and 23. This timeline explains what Jewish families do on each of the days of Passover. Read this timeline out loud to students, pausing after each entry to read a prompt from the list below. Give students a few minutes to turn and share their answers with a neighbor before moving on to the next entry.

- Before Passover: Before Passover, Jews often throw out all chametz foods. These foods include bread, crackers, and pasta. Would you miss eating any of these foods? What would you eat instead?
- Days 1 and 2: During the first two days of Passover, people rest and have a feast known as the Seder. Do you celebrate a holiday that has a traditional meal? If so, what is that meal called? What foods do you eat?



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- Days 3 through 6: On days three through six, families spend time together. What do you do with your family to have fun or relax together?
- Days 7 and 8: On the last two days, Jews rest and retell the story of Moses parting the Red Sea. Share a story about something important to your family. What makes this story special to you? Is it part of a holiday, part of your family's history or culture, or part of a religious tradition?

Then, come back together as a class and ask if any volunteers would like to share something they or their partner talked about.

Evaluation

Could students answer the questions about details from the chapter? Could they think of ideas to share with their neighbors and with the class?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 2 (RI 2.1, 2.5), and speaking and listening standards, grade 2 (SL 2.1, 2.2).



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