

Teacher Notes

- This PowerPoint presentation has been designed to support teachers to implement a unit of work on Celebrations around the World. It addresses personal, family and community celebrations; national days; Australia-specific commemorations and religious/cultural celebrations from around the world.
- Supporting materials, including posters and worksheets, can be accessed via the following links:

[Celebrations Around the World worksheet pack](#)

[Celebrations Around the World fact sheet pack](#)



Symbols



I do: my turn to talk. This is the explanation section of our lesson where you are required to listen.



We do: this is where we discuss or work on the concepts together.



You do: your turn to be involved. You may be working in a group or on an activity individually.

A vibrant, festive border surrounds the central text. It features a variety of colorful stars in shades of red, blue, green, yellow, and pink. Interspersed among the stars are colorful balloons in teal, pink, red, yellow, and green. Wavy, curly streamers in purple, green, and blue are also scattered throughout the border. The background of the border is a gradient of purple and blue, with some starburst patterns in the top-left corner.

Celebrations Around the World

What is a Celebration?

A celebration might include:

- a personal moment of pride or happiness
- a family gathering
- a party with friends
- a festival or large community gathering
- a national holiday or feast day.

Personal and Family Celebrations

Families celebrate lots of different events. Some of these include:

- the birth of a new baby
- christenings/baptisms/name days
- birthdays
- weddings
- school and university graduations
- special achievements (academic, sporting, cultural).



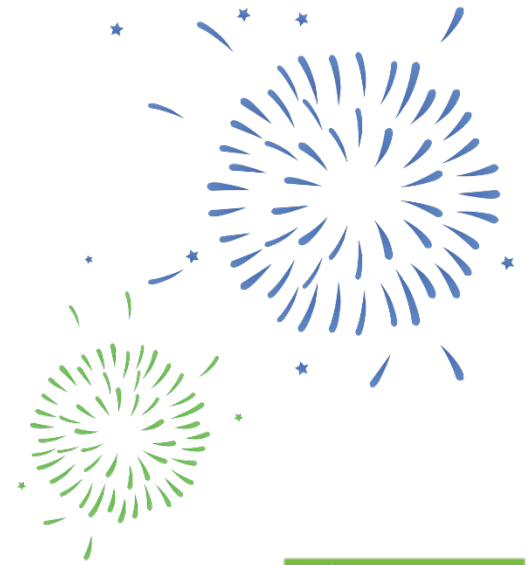
How do you Celebrate?

Complete pages 1-3 of the [*Celebrations around the World worksheet pack*](#).



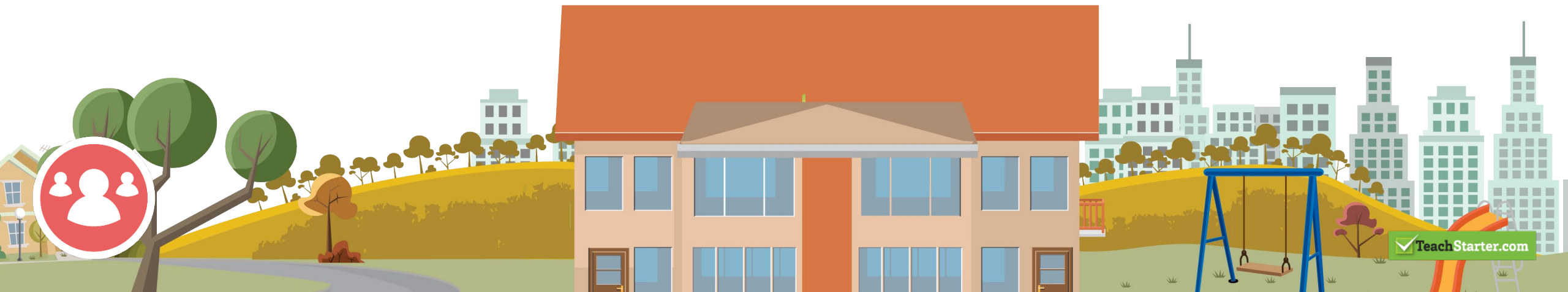
Community Celebrations

- A community is a group of people living in the same place, or a group of people that have a particular interest in common.
- For example: a suburb of a town, a sporting group, a religious group, a school, a workplace.
- These groups celebrate many different events including:
 - cultural festivals for food, art and music
 - community fun runs
 - end of season awards ceremonies
 - school and/or church fetes
 - graduation ceremonies.



School Celebrations

- As a class, brainstorm all the different events that are celebrated at your school.
- Choose one of the events. Complete page 6 of the [*Celebrations Around the World worksheet pack*](#).



National Celebrations

- A nation is a large group of people, living in a particular place, who share a common language, culture and history. Australia, the United States of America, Ireland and France are all examples of nations.
- Nations often have a special holiday to celebrate their heritage, their culture and all the things that make their country unique.
- Let's have a look at four examples of these national celebrations from around the world.



Australia Day

- Australia Day is a national holiday in Australia that is celebrated each year on January 26.
- On this day, in 1788, the First Fleet of British ships arrived at Sydney Cove in New South Wales, establishing a British colony.
- Not everyone in Australia celebrates Australia Day. For many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the day is a commemoration of the loss of land, families, languages and cultures.
- For these reasons, Australia Day means different things to different people.



Independence Day

- Independence Day is a national holiday in the United States of America that is celebrated each year on July 4.
- On this day, in 1776, the first 13 American colonies declared their independence from Great Britain and formed a new country called the United States of America.
- The holiday celebrates this important historical event; but also celebrates the culture, values and freedoms of modern-day America.



Saint Patrick's Day

- Saint Patrick's Day is a national holiday in Ireland that is celebrated each year on March 17.
- The holiday originally began as a celebration of the life and work of Saint Patrick, the man who brought the Christian faith to Ireland a very long time ago.
- Today, the holiday mainly celebrates all aspects of Ireland's rich culture and heritage. It is celebrated not only in Ireland; but all around the world.



Bastille Day

- Bastille Day is a national holiday in France that is celebrated each year on July 14.
- The holiday commemorates an important event in the history of France: the storming of the Bastille.
- The Bastille was a prison in Paris (the capital of France). The king and queen locked up people inside the prison who did not agree with their decisions.
- This event was the beginning of the French Revolution, an event which led to the end of the French monarchy.



National Celebrations

Working with a partner, complete pages 9 and 10 of the [*Celebrations Around the World worksheet pack*](#).

Use the [*Celebrations Around the World fact sheet pack*](#) displayed around your classroom to help you.





Australian Commemorations and Celebrations

- A commemoration is special time for remembering a person or event.
- Some commemorations and celebrations in Australia include:
 - ANZAC Day (we remember Australia's famous battle at Gallipoli in WW1).
 - Sorry Day (we remember the past mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples).
 - NAIDOC Week (we celebrate the culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples).
 - Remembrance Day (we remember those who fought and died in war).



ANZAC Day

- 'ANZAC' stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.
- ANZAC Day is held on April 25 every year. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War.
- ANZAC Day is a day for remembering all servicemen and women who have fought and died to protect our country's freedoms.
- Commemorative services are held at dawn across the nation. Later in the day, former servicemen and women take part in marches through the major cities.



National Sorry Day

- National Sorry Day is held every year on May 26. It is a day to remember and commemorate the mistreatment of the country's First Nations peoples.
- On this day, various National Sorry Day activities and events take place. Some of these include conciliation walks, street marches, speeches from community leaders and Sorry Day flag-raising events.
- Many schools also participate in the day. Events include essay competitions, lighting candles and inviting local elders to speak.



NAIDOC Week

- 'NAIDOC' stands for the National Aborigines' and Islanders' Day Observance Committee. The committee works to raise awareness of the unique histories, cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- NAIDOC week commences on the first Sunday in July and runs until the following Saturday.
- During NAIDOC week, an awards ceremony is held to celebrate the special achievements of First Nations Australians.
- Many schools also celebrate NAIDOC week.



Remembrance Day

- Remembrance Day is observed on November 11 every year. It is a day which remembers the end of the First World War.
- Australia is one of three countries which use this day to remember people who fought and died in wars.
- To honour all servicemen and women, two minutes silence is observed at 11 am. A tune called 'The Last Post' is also played.
- Poppies are a symbol of Remembrance Day. They were chosen to be a symbol because they grew in the battlefields where the soldiers fought.



Celebration or Commemoration?

As a class, decide if the following events are celebrations or commemorations.

Remembrance Day

New Year's Eve

Saint Patrick's Day

A birthday party

National Sorry Day

A school graduation

Commemoration

Celebration

Celebration

Celebration

Commemoration

Celebration

Australian Commemorations and Celebrations

Read pages 11 and 12 of the [Celebrations Around the World worksheet pack](#) - Australian Commemorations and Celebrations.

Complete the comprehension task on pages 13-15.



Religious and Cultural Celebrations

- Hundreds of different religious celebrations and cultural festivals are held around the world each year.
- Some of these festivals and celebrations include:
 - Diwali (a Hindu festival)
 - Eid al-Fitr (an Islamic celebration)
 - Hanukkah (a Jewish celebration)
 - Christmas (a Christian celebration).



Diwali

- Diwali is a five-day Hindu festival known as the 'Festival of Lights'. It is celebrated during October or November.
- The festival signifies the victory of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance, good over evil and hope over despair.
- People celebrate by lighting small oil lamps and candles and placing them inside and outside the house. Firecrackers are also let off to scare away evil spirits.
- During Diwali, families enjoy a feast together. There is also an exchange of gifts between family and friends.



Eid al-Fitr

- Eid al-Fitr is an Islamic celebration that marks the end of the month of Ramadan (the month of dawn-to-dusk fasting).
- To start the holiday, many people gather in large, open-air locations or mosques for special prayers.
- It is customary to have a small sweet breakfast in the morning, preferably of dates (fruit), before prayers.
- Different cultures celebrate differently. Some customs include adorning arms with intricate henna tattoo designs, exchanging gifts and wearing festive clothing.



Hanukkah

- Hanukkah is an eight-day celebration that begins on the 25th day of Kislev (the ninth month on the Hebrew calendar).
- It celebrates an ancient victory of the Jews over their enemies, and the freedom Jews enjoy today.
- The first task of the Jewish people after the victory was to clean up the Temple, and to restore the holy lamp (the menorah).
- Today, people celebrate Hanukkah by lighting candles on a menorah, exchanging gifts, making special foods and remembering their ancestors.



Christmas

- Christmas is a Christian holiday that marks the birth of Jesus Christ. It is celebrated on December 25 every year.
- Many non-Christian people also recognise Christmas as a cultural holiday to be celebrated with family and friends.
- At Christmas, people celebrate by decorating a tree with lights, baubles and tinsel. Gifts are placed under the tree and are exchanged on Christmas Day.
- Families spend time together, eating special food and relaxing. Christian families will attend church on Christmas Eve, or on Christmas morning.



Religious and Cultural Celebrations

In small groups, choose one of the following religious/cultural celebrations: Diwali, Eid al-Fitr and Hanukkah.

Complete the Five Senses graphic organiser (found in the [*Celebrations Around the World worksheet pack*](#)) for this celebration.

