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LESSON
PART 1 

Before we proceed

Name the festivals that remind you the following :



Festivals are celebrated all over the world. In India, we celebrate many festivals.

Diwali

Diwali is the *festival of lights*. People decorate their houses. They light diyas and candles. They give gifts and sweets to each other.



Diwali



Christmas

Christmas

Christmas is a great festival. It is the birthday of Jesus Christ. It is celebrated on 25th December every year.

Teacher's Tip

Make the children understand that all festivals give the same message of harmony, peace and brotherhood to all.

People decorate their houses. They set up and decorate Christmas trees. Santa Claus brings gifts for children. People give gifts to each other.

Id

Id is celebrated all over India. It is celebrated on the day after Ramzan. Ramzan is the month of fasting. People give alms to the poor. A special dish, called *sewain*, is cooked and served.



Id



Gurupurab

Gurupurab

Gurupurab is celebrated as the birthday of Guru Nanak Dev. People wear new clothes. They pray in Gurudwaras. Gurudwaras are decorated with lights. Free food is served to everyone.

FACTUM

There are ten Sikh gurus. Guru Nanak Dev is the first guru. The birthdays of other Gurus are also celebrated as Gurupurabs.

Holi

Holi is the *festival of colours*. People play with gulal and coloured water. They sing and dance. They eat special sweets called gujiyas on this day.



Holi



Pongal

Pongal

Pongal is the harvest festival of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. It is celebrated for three days in the month of January. People worship the Rain God, The Sun God and the cattle. They cook special *Pongal rice*.

Onam

Onam is the harvest festival of Kerala. People wear new clothes. There are feasts and games. People decorate their houses. Boat races are held. Special boats called snake boats take part in these races.



Onam



Baisakhi

Baisakhi

Baisakhi is the harvest festival of north India. It is celebrated on 13th or 14th April. People perform bhangra dance on this festival. Gurudwaras are decorated and food is served to all.

National Festivals

National Festivals are celebrated throughout the country.

Independence Day

India won freedom on 15th August 1947. Earlier it was under British Rule. So, we celebrate our independence



Independence Day

every year on 15th August and this day is called Independence Day. The Prime Minister hoists the National Flag at the Red Fort in Delhi. He speaks to the nation.

Republic Day

Our country became republic on 26th January 1950. Republic Day is celebrated on 26th January every year. The President of India takes the salute of armed forces. The tableaux of different states of India, folk dancers and school children in colourful dresses take part in a parade at Rajpath in New Delhi.



Republic Day



Raj Ghat

Gandhi Jayanti

Gandhi Jayanti is the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the *Father of the Nation*. It is celebrated on 2nd October every year.

On Gandhi Jayanti, the President, the Prime Minister and others visit the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi at Raj Ghat in New Delhi.

Prayers of all religions are held at Raj Ghat on this day.

FACTUM

The birthday of Jawaharlal Nehru (14th November) is celebrated as Children's Day every year. Jawaharlal Nehru was the first Prime Minister of India.

I now know ...

- ◆ Diwali is 'the festival of lights.'
- ◆ Christmas is the birthday of Jesus Christ and it is celebrated on 25th December.
- ◆ Id is celebrated on the day after Ramzan month.
- ◆ Holi is the festival of colours.
- ◆ Pongal, Onam and Baisakhi are the harvest festivals.
- ◆ National festivals are celebrated throughout India.
- ◆ Independence Day, Republic Day and Gandhi Jayanti are the three national festivals.

Think And Answer

A. Tick (✓) the correct option.

1. Which of these is 'the festival of lights' ?
(a) Diwali (b) Holi (c) Gurupurab
2. Which of these is 'the festival of colours' ?
(a) Diwali (b) Holi (c) Id
3. On which festival do we decorate a tree in our house ?
(a) Christmas (b) Holi (c) Diwali
4. Which of these is a harvest festival ?
(a) Id (b) Onam (c) Gandhi Jayanti
5. Which festival is celebrated on 15th August ?
(a) Independence Day (b) Christmas Day (c) Children's Day

B. Match these two columns.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Independence Day ● | ● 26th January |
| 2. Gandhi Jayanti ● | ● 14th November |
| 3. Christmas ● | ● 15th August |
| 4. Republic Day ● | ● 2nd October |
| 5. Children's Day ● | ● 25th December |

C. Answer the following questions.

1. How do we celebrate Diwali ?

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2. What do people do on the day of Christmas ?

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3. What is Ramzan ?

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.....

4. Why is Holi called 'the festival of colours' ?

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5. How is Gurupurab celebrated ?

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6. Name the three National Festivals.

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Think And Do

A. All festivals share some common features. Tick (✓) what we do from the list given below.

- 1. Wearing new clothes
- 2. Decorating the house
- 3. Saying prayers
- 4. Preparing special dishes
- 5. Bursting crackers
- 6. Giving gifts
- 7. Offering sweets to others
- 8. Crying sadly
- 9. Sharing happiness with others



B. Talk to your teacher about the following festivals. Find out one special feature of each festival.

Festival	State	Special Feature
Bihu	Assam	
Baisakhi	Punjab	
Lai Haraoba	Manipur	
Durga Pooja	West Bengal	
Ganesh Chaturthi	Maharashtra	

PROJECT/ACTIVITY

A. Do this activity.

Things Required : Diyas, poster colour, brushes of different size.

Procedure : Follow these steps :

1. Soak the diya in water for one day.
2. The next day, leave it under fan for sometime to dry.
3. Print pretty patterns on it.
4. Happy Diwali! It makes a great gift.

B. How is Independence Day celebrated in your school ? Write five sentences.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.