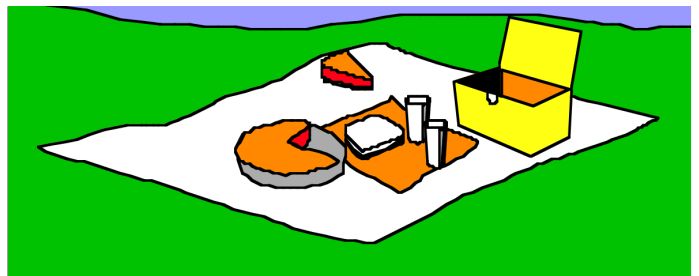


ACTIVITIES FOR “THE PICNIC OF THE WORLD”

THEME: *Many cultures make up America. Each culture is unique and those unique characteristics contribute to a multicultural, interdependent society.*

SOCIAL STUDIES: Have your students interview family members (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles). Interviews may include a favorite family memory or story. Students may take notes during the interview or tape record the comments. Students will then write the memory in the form of a story, illustrate and construct a book to share in the class library. Be sure to include a “Comments” page in the book. That way when the book is sent home to share, parents and relatives can make comments on these pages.

CLASS ACTIVITY: Have a class picnic on Children's Day which is celebrated on May 5th in Japan. This could also coincide with Cinco de Mayo celebrations. For your picnic, prepare foods representative of the different cultures in your class. Learn songs and dances also traditional to these cultures. Make a video of this event or take photos to create a class picture book “We Are All Special People.”



WRITING: Write a letter or send an email to a pen pal in a different part of the world. Perhaps some students have friends or family in another part of the world who would like to communicate with your class. Contact these or similar organizations to set up a pen pal writing program:



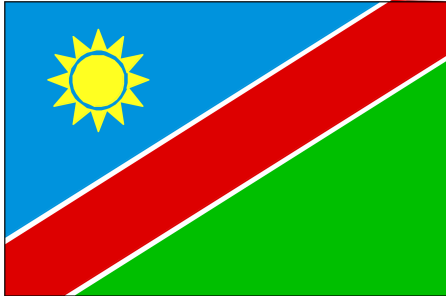
Students Of The World
www.studentsoftheworld.info

ePALS
www.epals.com

World Pen Pals
www.world-pen-pals.com

ACTIVITIES FOR "THE PICNIC OF THE WORLD" (continued)

GEOGRAPHY: There are many countries listed in the song. Make a list of all the countries, divide the class into groups, and have each group locate the countries on a map. Have the students research and find one interesting fact about each country. What language do they speak? What foods do they grow? What colors are on their flag? Which continent is each country in? Write a list of 10 things you would tell someone who lives in another country to describe your life in the United States.



LANGUAGE ARTS: Create a class Big Book about the students and their cultures. Have students draw pictures of themselves. After everyone has completed an illustration, have students create a brief narrative about themselves mentioning their cultural heritage and things they know about their heritage. Punch three holes in each page and use binder rings to keep the "Big Book" together.



RELATED LITERATURE:

Aekyung's Dream / Min Paek * Children's Press

Minnie's Yom Kippur Birthday / Marilyn Singer * Harper & Row

The Day of Ahmed's Secret / F. Heide and J. Gilliland * Lothrop, Lee & Shepard

Fiesta / June Behrens * Children's Book Press

Count Your Way Through the Arab World, China, Japan, Mexico / Jim Haskins * Carolrhoda Books

Why The Sun and Moon Live in the Sky / E. Dayrell * Houghton Mifflin