



Cultural Project

March 4, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our next Social Studies Unit, “Ways of Living,” focuses on different cultures and their customs and traditions. In class, we will study the traditions of different cultural groups in our country and learn about how culture is taught and passed on. The unit also emphasizes that the United States is a diverse nation of immigrants who came from “somewhere” else originally. In our school, we celebrate how we are united through our faith and are part of the family of Christ, but it is also important to celebrate our cultural diversity.

As part of this unit study, I am asking students to complete a family “cultural interview”, which they will then orally present to their classmates. This project will connect students’ real-life experience with ideas that we are studying in Social Studies and allow students to learn from each other rather than just from the textbook. Please read the project description with them, help them complete their family interview at home, practice their oral presentation of the interview, and complete a culture collage to show in class during their presentation. They may choose to bring in an “artifact” (see Cultural Project Guidelines for more details) from your culture to show in class to compliment the collage and oral presentation. Thank you for your help with this project!

Love and prayers,
Sr. Tina, LHC





Cultural Project Guidelines and Due Dates

Family Interview (due Friday, March 15):

Students should interview a family member. They must record the family member's answers in writing on the Family Interview Worksheet.

Cultural Collage (due Monday, March 25):

Each student will create a 18" by 22" collage. This collage may focus on one custom your child will present or it may show a snapshot of many customs in your culture. However, the oral presentation will focus only on one custom. The collage can be created by a combination of the following: magazine cut outs, family photos, words, hand drawings, sayings or quotes common in your family custom, etc. Be creative! You may use any kind of art medium to create this collage (ie. crayons, markers, glitter, pens, paint...). Examples are attached.

Oral Presentation (Monday, April 1st):

Using information learned from their interview, students will present to their classmates what culture(s) their ancestors or family are from, and explain one custom or tradition from their culture in detail. They may use notecards and should not read off a piece of paper while presenting. Please have them practice their oral presentation at home before presenting in class!

Artifact (optional, bring on Monday, April 1st for presentation):

Something that represents your culture and customs or traditions. Students will bring it to share with the class along with their cultural collage on their presentation day. It could be a piece of clothing, another object, a song on a CD, food (as long as it doesn't contain peanuts or tree nuts)...it's totally up to you!



Name: _____ #: _____ Date: _____

Family Interview

Instructions: Choose a parent, uncle, aunt, or grandparent to interview. Fill out this page for the person you interview by writing down their answers.

The person I interviewed is:

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS: (Ask these questions as you interview your family member.)

Where did your ancestors or family members immigrate from?

Why did they want to move to the United States?

What languages do your family speak at home together?

What traditions or customs do your family celebrate that are specific to your culture? (for example: holidays, festivals, religious traditions, food you make, etc...):

Which one of these is your favorite or is most important to you? Why? Tell me more about it in detail.

Extra Notes:

Teacher Scoring Rubric

Student Name: _____

Date: _____ Score: ____ /39

POINT VALUES

0 = not evident

1 = minimal evidence of mastery

2 = evidence of development toward mastery

3 = strong evidence of mastery

Culture Project

Oral Presentation	Points	Notes
Tell about who you interviewed		
Tell where your ancestors came from		
Tell why your family wanted to move to the United States		
Tell about a favorite family tradition or custom		
Tell about why the above tradition or custom is your family's favorite		
Preparedness		
Student is completely prepared and has clearly rehearsed		
Cultural Collage		
States the name of your family culture		
Tell about family tradition(s) or custom(s)		
Creative in the use of materials		
Neat and presentable		
Voice		
Delivered in a confident voice		
Facial Expression and body language generates interest		
Listening		
Listens attentively to all peers' presentations		

Teacher Comments:

Examples of Cultural Collages:

