

Click®

Party Time!

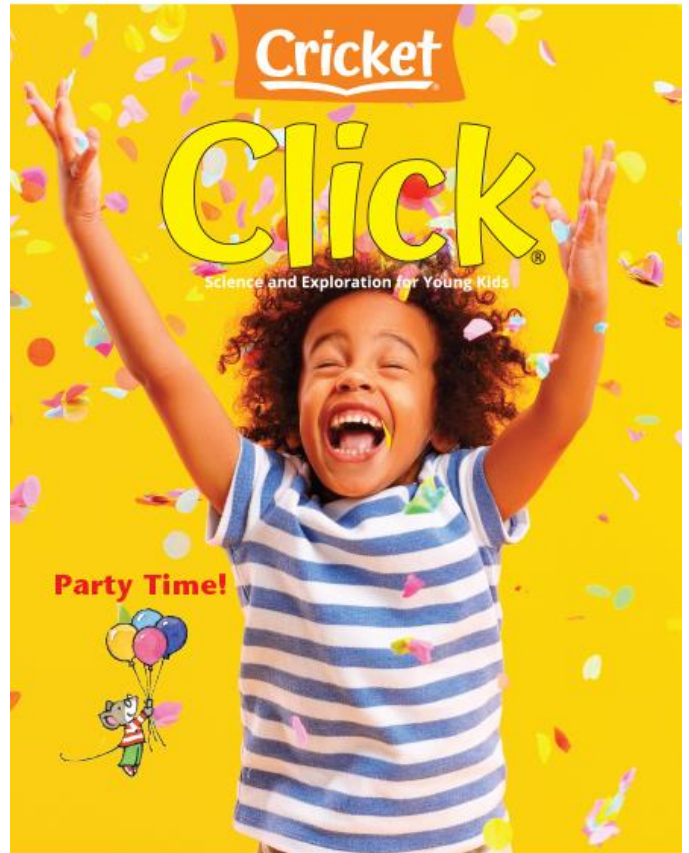
Put simply, a party is an occasion at which people assemble for social interaction, entertainment, and food. This month's issue of CLICK invites young readers to learn about celebrations throughout the world.

CONVERSATION QUESTION

How are special occasions celebrated?

TEACHING OBJECTIVES

- Students will learn about different holidays and traditions celebrated around the world.
- Students will learn how birthday celebrations vary from country to country.
- Students will learn that one year is the length of time it takes for the Earth to travel around the sun.
- Students will make comparisons.
- Students will obtain information from a nonfiction text.
- Students will examine cyclical patterns.
- Students will tally results and complete addition-and-subtraction word problems.
- Students will learn to say "happy birthday" in different languages.
- Students will participate in a classic earth science experiment.



In addition to supplemental materials focused on core STEM skills, this flexible teaching tool offers vocabulary-building activities, questions for discussion, and cross-curricular activities.

SELECTIONS

- **Let's Party!**
Expository Nonfiction
- **Happy Birthday!**
Expository Nonfiction
- **Birthday Mice and a Trip Around the Sun**
Contemporary Realistic Fiction

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Let's Party!

pp. 7–10, Expository Nonfiction

Although traditions can vary greatly between different groups of people, there are often overlapping customs between cultures. This article introduces young readers to a variety of celebrations around the globe.



RESOURCES

- Making Comparisons: Party On

OBJECTIVES

- Students will learn about different holidays and traditions celebrated around the world.
- Students will make comparisons.
- Students will tally results and complete addition and subtraction word problems.

KEY VOCABULARY

- **traditions (p. 7)** a way of doing something that has been used by the people in a particular group or family for a long time
- **festival (p. 8)** a special time or event when people gather to celebrate something
- **Yule log (p. 9)** a large log that is traditionally burned in a fireplace on Christmas Eve

ENGAGE

Conversation Question: How are special occasions celebrated?

Draw a word web on the board and write the word *PARTY* in the center. Have students meet in small groups to discuss their experiences attending or preparing for different types of parties. Guide them to consider clothes, food, traditions, etc. Add responses to the web and then introduce the article “Let’s Party!” Revisit the web after the reading and have students circle the descriptors that pertain to the parties in the text and add new words to it.

INTRODUCE VOCABULARY

Post and discuss the three vocabulary words and definitions. Number the words 1–3 on the board. Have students review the words with a partner. Ask the following questions and have students hold up one, two, or three fingers to indicate which word they think answers the question. Discuss.

- A. What fall event could celebrate the harvest?
- B. My whole family gathers together weekly for Sunday dinners. This is an example of a _____.
- C. What is something that could keep you warm on a winter holiday?

READ & DISCUSS

Lead a post-reading discussion based on the following questions:

1. How do you celebrate your birthday?
2. What are the boats for the candles made out of in Thailand?
3. Why do people jump over small fires during the Persian new year festival?
4. What do Muslims do when the month of Ramadan is over?
5. What did the custom of burning a Yule log originally celebrate?

SKILL FOCUS: Compare and Contrast

INSTRUCT: Students will compare and contrast celebrations around the world with their own traditions. Remind students that the article was written to expose young readers to faraway celebrations. Read aloud the four bullet points at the top of the *Making Comparisons: Party On* worksheet. Have students complete the worksheet independently.

ASSESS: Have students share their completed worksheet with a partner so that they can learn more about a classmate. Collect and evaluate.

EXTEND

Mathematics: Write the months of the year on the board, January–December. Have students write their name under their birthday month. Tally results. Then, use the results to pose questions that students can answer using addition or subtraction. See examples below:

1. How many more children have a birthday in September than in May?
2. How many children have a birthday in March or April?

Party On

Making Comparisons Reread the four facts from the article listed below. Then complete the worksheet using words and/or pictures.

- In Thailand, people celebrate Loi Krathong by **lighting** candles and setting them adrift on boats made from banana leaves.
- In Rio de Janeiro, people celebrate Carnaval by wearing colorful **costumes**.
- In France, people celebrate with **food** by eating a cake that looks like a Yule log.
- In Nigeria, people celebrate the Osun-Osogbo Festival by **singing, dancing**, and playing drums.

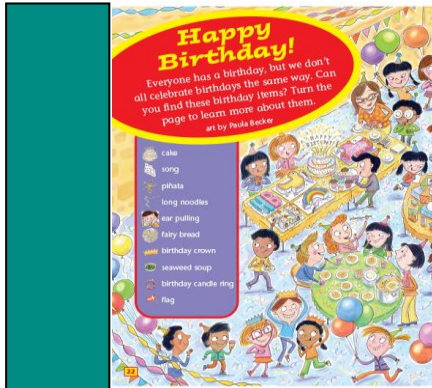
This is how I celebrate with lights :	This is how I celebrate with costumes :
This is how I celebrate with food :	This is how I celebrate with singing and dancing .

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Happy Birthday!

pp. 22–25, Expository Nonfiction

This article will teach students how birthdays are celebrated in countries across the globe. From noodles to seaweed, young readers will discover the foods and festivities that surround this special day.



RESOURCES

- Obtain Information: Celebrating YOU

OBJECTIVES

- Students will learn how birthday celebrations vary from country to country.
- Students will obtain information from a nonfiction text.
- Students will learn to say “happy birthday” in three different languages.

KEY VOCABULARY

- piñata** (p. 22) a decorated container filled with candies/gifts that is hung up at parties and hit with a stick by children until it is broken and the things inside it fall out
- royalty** (p. 25) kings and queens and the members of their families
- decorations** (p. 25) things used to make something more colorful and attractive

ENGAGE

Conversation Question: How are special occasions celebrated?

Present the article “Happy Birthday!” and read aloud the sentences in the red oval on page 22. Then read aloud the list of ten items on the same page. Have students work in pairs to locate and circle all ten items in the illustration. Give the pairs ten minutes. Tell students that the significance of each item will be discussed in the article.

INTRODUCE VOCABULARY

Post and discuss the key vocabulary words and definitions on the board. Then display the following cloze sentences and have students supply the correct word:

- Simple pinecones can serve as Thanksgiving Day ____.
- Suzie filled the ____ with gummy candies and tiny chocolate bars.
- We learned that we are supposed to bow in the presence of ____.

READ & DISCUSS

Reinforce comprehension of the details in the article by using the following prompts to direct discussion:

- Who is believed to have made the very first birthday cake?
- If you lived in Russia, why would your friends pull your ears up on your birthday?
- What happens when the piñata breaks?
- How did birthday crowns become popular?
- What was the song “Happy Birthday” originally called?

SKILL FOCUS: Obtain Information

INSTRUCT: Guide students to obtain information from the text, captions, and drawings in the article. Remind them that the article was written to teach readers about a variety of interesting birthday traditions. Introduce the *Obtain Information: Celebrating YOU* worksheet. Instruct students to correctly match the country on the left with the celebration item/custom listed on the right.

ASSESS: Review worksheets and locate the countries on a world map.

EXTEND

Language: Remind students that we wish someone “happy birthday” because we are celebrating the day they were born, or their “birth.” Extend the lesson by teaching the class how people wish “happy birthday” in some of the countries mentioned in the article.

LANGUAGE	SPELLING	PRONUNCIATION
Spanish	Feliz Cumpleaños	Fe-lis coom-play-anyos
German	Alles Gute zum Geburtstag	A-les goo-tuh dzum Guh-boorts-tak
Greek	charoúmena genéthlia	Ha-ru-me-na dje-na-thlia

Celebrating YOU

Obtain Information Match the description of the item/custom on the right with its correct country on the left. Refer to the article for accuracy.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. _____ Korea | A. We celebrate with fairy bread, or buttered bread with sprinkles. |
| 2. _____ Germany | B. We eat long birthday noodles for luck. |
| 3. _____ Mexico | C. We celebrate by waving and hanging our country's flag. |
| 4. _____ China | D. At our celebration, our ears get pulled! |
| 5. _____ Greece | E. We celebrate by lighting birthday candles in a wooden ring. |
| 6. _____ Denmark | F. We celebrate by hitting a piñata with a stick. |
| 7. _____ Australia | G. We eat seaweed soup to honor our mothers. |
| 8. _____ Russia | H. We make the first cake round like the moon and light candles to make it shine. |

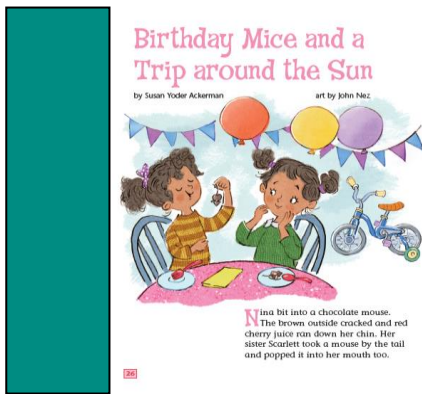
This is how I celebrate my birthday:

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Birthday Mice and a Trip Around the Sun

pp. 26-33, Contemporary
Realistic Fiction

Students will be familiar with Nina's feelings of anticipation as she excitedly waits for her birthday to arrive. This story subtly explores the changing seasons as Nina takes a "trip around the sun."



RESOURCES

- Examine Patterns: February Fun

OBJECTIVES

- Students will learn that one year is the length of time it takes for the Earth to travel around the sun.
- Students will examine cyclical patterns.
- Students will participate in a classic earth science experiment.

KEY VOCABULARY

- zooming** (p. 27) moving quickly
- tilting** (p. 29) leaning to one side
- halfway** (p. 31) in the middle between two points

ENGAGE

Conversation Question: How do we celebrate special occasions?

Motivate students by playing a simple party game, such as Duck Duck Goose, Simon Says, Freeze Dance, or an egg-spoon race. Use these games to foster cooperation and fair play, rather than competition.

INTRODUCE VOCABULARY

Post and discuss the three vocabulary words and definitions. Have students Think-Pair-Share with a partner. Give them the following directives, one at a time:

- Why might your dog be **zooming** around the room? (During outdoor recess, have the students **zoom** around the playground.)
- Stand up and stretch. Shake out your arms and legs and wiggle your fingers and nod your head. Now, **tilt** your head to the right. **Tilt** your head to the left. **Tilt** your head back.
- Line up across the back of the room. How many steps does it take you to walk **halfway** to the front wall of the room?

Emphasize the key words as they are revealed in the reading.

READ & DISCUSS

Post and discuss questions prior to reading the story aloud. Then reread the story, pausing when answers to the questions are revealed.

- What was Nina's favorite birthday gift?
- When is Nina's birthday?
- What do Nina and Scarlett work on after the chocolate mice?
- Who was Nina with when her tooth fell out after biting into a berry?
- What was Nina doing when Dad said, "We're already more than halfway around the sun"?

SKILL FOCUS: Examine Cyclical Patterns

INSTRUCT: Discuss with students that the days, weeks, months, and years pass in a cyclical pattern. For example, there are always 24 hours in a day, seven days in a week, etc. In addition, seasons occur in the same sequence every year. Help students notice patterns on a calendar. Then have them complete the *Examine Patterns: February Fun* worksheet by carefully following the directions.

ASSESS: Circulate as students work. Have mini-conversations with students as needed.

EXTEND

Earth Science: Use a globe and a flashlight to replicate how sunlight shines on the Earth, causing seasonal changes and light differences. Have students choose a few random places on the globe and guide them to notice that during the winter, the Northern Hemisphere leans away from the sun and there are fewer daylight hours. Demonstrate that the farther you move from the equator, the more unequal daylight and darkness become. Have students help you demonstrate the Earth moving around the sun.

February Fun

Examine Patterns Use this calendar to answer the questions below.

FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

- Nina's birthday is on February 8. Mark that date with a birthday cake.
- Mark Valentine's Day, February 14, with a red heart.
- What day of the week do February 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 fall on? _____
- Every four years is Leap Year. February 2024 has one extra day. What is the last day of February in 2024? _____
- Color all of the odd-number days yellow.
- Groundhog's Day is on the first Friday of the month. What is the date?

- Mark President's Day, February 19, with the letter "P."
- Lunar New Year is two days after Nina's birthday. What is the date? _____