

West Virginia Studies Resource Development

Title of Lesson: Festivals Around the State
Grade level: 8th Grade
Summary: The students will research assigned festivals in West Virginia. They will complete a graphic organizer and map of festivals to fill in as each student presents.
WV CCR Social Studies Standards: SS.8.26 Demonstrate an understanding of West Virginia in the modern era. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compile lists of fairs and festivals in West Virginia that can be attributed to the influence of various cultural groups who have settled in the state, explaining the heritage of the fair or festival and its significance to the preservation of West Virginia History.
Students will know and understand (content): Why are there so many festivals in West Virginia? What cultural groups settled in West Virginia? What industries are cultural groups associated with?
Students will be able to do (skills): List fairs and festivals that take place every year in West Virginia. Locate the city and county that the festivals take place. Explain the heritage of West Virginia fairs and how they preserve culture in West Virginia.
Materials & Resources: Map of West Virginia (attached) A computer or electronic device for researching selected fairs and festivals. List of festivals in West Virginia: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black Walnut Festival• Bridge Day• Buckwheat Festival• Chocolate Festival• Fasnact• Feast of Ramson• Grape Stomping Festival• Irish Spring Festival• Maple Syrup Festival• Mothman Festival• New Vrindaban Open House Festival

- Weirton Greek Festival
- West Virginia Dandelion Festival
- West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival
- West Virginia Pumpkin Festival
- West Virginia Roadkill Festival
- West Virginia State Folk Festival
- West Virginia Strawberry Festival
- West Virginia Turkey Festival
- Woodchopping Festival

Learning Plan:

1. The teacher will assign each student a festival that takes place in West Virginia.
2. The student will use a computer or other device to research the following questions on attached sheet:
 - Where the festival takes place?
 - When the festival is held?
 - What are they celebrating?
 - What types of products or events can you see at this festival?
3. The student will mark and label on the given West Virginia map what city and county the festival takes place.
4. The students will present to the class what they discovered. As the presenter speaks, the class will fill in their graphic organizer and map.

Extended Projects-

1. The students can create a brochure of pictures and information on an assigned festival with important information.
2. The student can create a PowerPoint or digital presentation on the assigned festival.
3. The student can prepare a dish or wear traditional clothing when presenting the assigned festival.
4. The class can create a new festival for their community/county that is for a particular ethnic group/ product.

Checking for Understanding:

1. In the student presentation, the teacher will make sure the questions are fully answered.
2. A matching quiz can be made to match the festival with the culture group or product represented. This should be specific to the assigned festivals.

Extended Questions- Focus on low and high level questions.

1. Which of the festivals would you like to attend? Why?
2. Is there a particular ethnic group or product that your community/county is known for that does not have a festival?

Accommodations:

- 1. This project can be completed in groups. You can use a peer tutor for the students who are at lower levels.**
- 2. Teacher can assign students who are lower level a festival that is held in a location nearby.**

Accelerated Students can complete Extended Projects.

Directions: Locate and label the city and county of the selected festivals.

