

Festivals and Celebrations

Independence Day

Perhaps the most famous Independence Day in the month of July is that of the United States of America on July 4th, but many other countries also celebrate their independence in July. In the first activity you will investigate Independence Day in the United States. In activities 2 and 3 you'll discover which other countries celebrate their independence at a similar time of year.

Activity 1: Timed Treasure Hunt

You have 15 minutes to complete this treasure hunt. When you are finished, share the results with your classmates.

Links:

www.american.edu/heintze/events.htm

www.fourth-of-july-celebrations.com/

www.july4thparade.com/index.html

1. Exactly what happened on 4th July 1776?
2. Who headed the committee that wrote the Declaration of Independence?
3. Who was the last person to sign the document?
4. How did the citizens of Williamsburg celebrate the first Independence Day in July 1776?
5. How do Americans celebrate today?
6. How many spectators will watch the Washington DC parade?
7. How will they celebrate in Austin, Texas?
8. How long does the Boston Harborfest last and how many events will there be?
9. What time does the Washington DC parade begin?

Activity 2: More Independence Days

Now you'll learn about other countries that celebrate their Independence Day at a similar time of year. Go to the website below and complete the chart.

www.countryreports.org/alphanationtext.htm

Choose the country you are looking for from the list on the left-hand side of the web page.

Country	Independence day	World region	Independence from
Algeria			
Argentina			
Belarus			
Belgium			
Burundi			
Cape Verde			
Colombia			
Comoros			
Kiribati			
Laos			
Liberia			
Malawi			
Maldives			
Peru			
Rwanda			
Solomon Islands			
Somalia			
Vanuatu			
Venezuela			

Activity 3: More Independence Days (continued)

Look at the list of countries in activity 2. They can all be found in the puzzle below. They could be written horizontally, vertically or diagonally and could be read from left to right or from right to left.

E	P	I	C	N	I	R	P	D	N	A	E	M	O	T	T	S	B	L	A
G	W	K	A	E	R	A	E	C	S	U	D	B	A	D	N	A	W	R	E
A	I	R	E	B	I	L	R	E	Z	E	N	R	P	U	I	A	G	D	K
S	E	R	D	A	P	O	P	I	L	V	A	N	T	E	N	E	V	L	V
S	A	G	U	A	L	G	E	R	I	A	D	K	E	Z	N	S	G	L	A
O	O	S	Z	M	G	A	U	K	L	N	S	V	C	T	A	T	K	E	N
L	D	M	C	R	F	Z	I	K	M	U	A	W	I	W	E	R	G	A	U
O	R	E	A	Z	O	U	D	I	B	S	O	N	K	R	Y	C	U	L	A
M	U	C	G	L	B	V	F	R	A	C	A	P	E	V	E	R	D	E	T
O	P	O	G	S	I	P	O	I	V	A	D	M	E	R	E	C	U	Z	U
N	I	L	A	C	P	A	R	B	E	L	A	N	T	T	D	B	N	K	A
I	Z	O	E	G	E	I	H	A	E	J	E	Y	N	E	G	S	I	F	B
S	O	M	O	L	R	N	S	T	I	Z	S	A	M	R	F	T	U	A	S
L	M	B	U	R	U	N	D	I	U	R	C	O	M	O	R	O	S	G	E
A	K	I	R	F	R	V	A	E	E	I	H	S	J	C	O	M	W	R	V
N	S	A	I	C	E	O	L	O	D	B	A	S	Y	I	S	A	I	E	I
D	E	N	B	G	L	A	C	R	B	S	O	L	U	F	G	C	U	S	D
S	P	G	E	J	U	B	V	Y	I	A	K	I	R	A	E	G	I	V	L
R	D	F	A	W	S	U	R	A	L	E	B	D	K	T	U	H	K	O	A
O	B	E	L	G	I	U	M	P	S	D	E	E	N	I	W	A	L	A	M