

Webquest: La Tomatina

by Karen Kovacs

Some festivals are stranger than others. La Tomatina is one of the world's most unusual celebrations. In this webquest, you will find out more about this unique festival.

Activity 1

Go to the link below and read the text. Then, complete the summary of La Tomatina.

www.lonelyplanet.com/spain/bunol-1340894/travel-tips-and-articles/la-tomatina-a-guide-to-spains-messiest-festival/40625c8c-8a11-5710-a052-1479d2771468

The festival of La Tomatina, which began in _____ (1), takes place in the town of _____ (2), Spain, on the last _____ (3) in _____ (4) every year. During the celebration, people throw over _____ (5) tonnes of _____ (6) at each other. It is a good idea to wear _____ (7) to protect your eyes.

Activity 2

In this activity, you will explore this unusual festival in more detail. There are four topics below. Investigate them using the links provided. You can work alone or in groups and present your findings in a written or oral report.

www.pilotguides.com/articles/celebratory-tomato-fighting

www.spanish-fiestas.com/festivals/la-tomatina

Topic 1: History

How did the festival start? There are four theories presented on the websites.

Read about the theories and summarize them in your report. Which theory do you think is the most likely?

Topic 2: The festival

1. When and how does it begin?
2. How many kilos of tomatoes are available?
3. Who throws the tomatoes?
4. How long does it last?
5. How does it end?
6. How do they clean up all the tomatoes?

Topic 3: Advice

Most things in life are controlled by rules, and La Tomatina is no different.

1. What rules exist for La Tomatina?
2. What advice would you give to anyone who wants to take part in the festival? Prepare an original list of rules and tips for potential visitors.

Topic 4: Other events

There are many other events and activities in Buñol and beyond.

1. What can you do in Buñol before the tomato throwing begins?
2. What other places can you visit in the surrounding area if you don't want to throw tomatoes?

Prepare lists of possible activities for different kinds of tourists: teenagers, families and older visitors.