

TITLE

LET'S LEARN ABOUT AANHPI CALENDARS!

GRADE LEVEL: 3-5

DISCIPLINE: World History, Science, Math

TOPIC: Calendars.

STANDARDS: CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.OA.A.2 | CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.NF.A.1 | CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.OA.A.3, CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.NF.B.3.A | CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.NF.C.6 | CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.A.1 | CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.A.3 | CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.B.5 | CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.B.7 | NGSS.1-ESS1-1 | NGSS.MS-ESS1-1 | NCSS Standards: Culture and Cultural Diversity; Individuals, Groups, and Institutions, History.

OBJECTIVES:

- Compare and contrast different types of calendars.
- Understand the history and practice of different holidays and calendars from different cultures.
- Understand how calendar systems relate to the lunar and solar cycles.
- Understand how leap years are calculated.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- What calendars are used in different parts of the world?
- How do these calendars work mathematically and scientifically?
- Why do different groups of people use different calendars?
- How do different calendar systems impact the lives of the people who use them?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- [Digital student workbook](#)

CLASSROOM HOURS NEEDED:

About 1 hour and 40 minutes

FINAL ASSESSMENT TYPE:

Interactive activities and discussion

KIT INCLUDES:

- [Student Workbook Slides](#)
- Glossary of Terms
- Educator Note: How to Use this Lesson Plan

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INTRODUCTION:

Due to factors of colonialism and globalization, many countries today use the Gregorian calendar. However, there are other cultural and national calendars that people use to track months, seasons, and years. In this lesson, students will be exposed to three different calendar systems and compare them to the Gregorian calendar. Students will explore the calendars and the people who use them through geography, astronomy, history, and math.

GEOGRAPHY (25 MINUTES)

- Students can work individually, with a partner, or with teacher guidance through slides 3-12.
- In this section, students will be introduced to the calendars we will discuss through the lesson and where they are used in the world.

ASTRONOMY (20 MINUTES)

- In this section, students will explore the solar system, the definition of a year, and how astronomy relates to calendars (slides 31-21)..
- This lesson plan includes an optional interactive activity. Students will use a sandwich cookie (like an Oreo) and popsicle stick to model the phases of the moon - a concept that is very important to understanding calendars.

MATH (30 MINUTES)

- Divide students into four groups. Assign each group section of math problems for a specific calendar:
Group 1: Gregorian calendar (slides 19-20)
Group 2: Chinese calendar (slides 21-22)
Group 3: Vikram Samvat calendars (slides 23-24)
Group 4: Saka Samvat and Hijri calendars (slides 25-26)
- Students can work together to solve the math problems, or individually and then check with the whole group (15 minutes).
- Students can work together to solve the math problems, or individually and then check with the whole group (15 minutes). Students can check their answers on slide 27
- Instruct each group to share the answers for their part with the entire class. Then, in the groups, have students read through all the problems from all the sections (with the answers filled in), and answer the questions on page 28.
- To help better understand calendars, students can complete an optional interactive activity -the lunar and solar calendar wheels on slides 29-30 (15 minutes).



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CULTURE AND CONCLUSION (25 MINUTES)

- Students will explore the holidays and cultural significance of calendars to the people who use them (slides 38-46).
- Students will also brainstorm similarities and differences in all the calendars and reflect on how calendars impact their lives.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- AANHPI: Asian-American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander
- Chinese calendar: a lunar calendar used by Chinese communities all over the world
- Hijri calendar: a lunar calendar used by Muslim people to track holidays
- Lunar calendar: a calendar that is based on the cycles of the moon
- Lunar month: the amount of time it takes the moon to go through all 8 of its phases; 29.5 days
- Saka Samvat calendar: a lunisolar calendar used by Hindu people; India's national calendar
- Vikram Samvat calendar: a lunar calendar used by Hindu people; the historical Hindu calendar

EDUCATOR NOTE: HOW TO USE THIS LESSON PLAN

This hands-on, interdisciplinary lesson plan guides students through an exploration of calendars from Asian cultures, including the Chinese calendar, the Vikram Samvat, the Saka Samvat, and Hijri calendars. Following the provided interactive slides, students will learn about the geography, astronomy, math, and culture of each of these calendars and gain an appreciation of calendars used by AANHPI communities around the world. Students may each have their own copy of the slides. Or the slides can be shared and students may work in groups to discuss their responses.



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