

Webquest: Carnival Traditions in the World

Introduction

Carnival is a Western Christian and Orthodox Greek festive season which occurs before the liturgical season of Lent. The main events take place during February or early March, in the period known as Shrovetide (or Pre-Lent). Carnival typically involves public celebrations, including events such as processions, public street parties and other entertainments. Elaborate costumes and masks allow people to set aside their everyday individuality and experience a heightened sense of social unity. Participants often indulge in excessive consumption of alcohol, meat and other foods due to upcoming six weeks of Lent.

This task focuses on various traditions of celebrating carnival in selected countries (Italy, Spain, Germany, Finland, Brazil, USA and the user's country)

Aim

To learn more about different cultures, focusing on similarities and differences among selected countries and your country.

To extend vocabulary, to enhance reading and speaking skills and to develop presentation techniques.

Task

Work in small groups of 3 – 4 people. Each group should collect information on carnival traditions in Italy, Spain, Germany, Finland, Brazil, USA and your own country. Then prepare a short presentation, highlighting similarities and differences.

Focus on following items: places

costumes and masks

typical food and drinks

activities

others

You may need these links:

<https://www.tripsavvy.com/carnevale-festivals-in-italy-1547305>

<https://www.donquijote.org/spanish-culture/holidays/carnival-in-spain/>

<https://traveltips.usatoday.com/carnival-brazil-100582.html>

<https://eu.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2018/02/13/what-mardi-gras-most-famous-new-orleans-and-how-celebrated/332796002/>

<http://www.fulbright.fi/en/shrove-tuesday-mardi-gras-laskiaistiistai>

<https://www.tripsavvy.com/carnival-in-cologne-3572156>

Conclusion

You have done research on carnival traditions in some countries on two continents. You have extended your vocabulary and both reading and speaking skills. You've experienced working in a team and sharing ideas. You had to make common decisions. We hope that this task made you think about the cultural values that we share as well as about the differences that we appreciate.