



Let's Celebrate

Two weeks of culture for the activity badge.

How to earn the badge

1. People celebrate in lots of different ways, like singing, dancing, and playing games. What do you like doing when you're happy? Sing a song, do a dance, or play a game from a different culture.
2. Lots of festivals are based on stories or legends. Find out about some festivals or celebrations such as the story of Diwali the festival of lights, or the lunar new year legends, or hear about the menorah miracle at Hanukkah.
3. Now it's your turn to party – take part in a festival or celebration from a different culture with the other Squirrels. Get creative, make something to help you celebrate, and try some different festive foods.

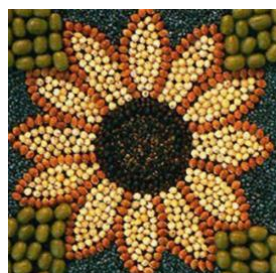


Programme Planner – Week 1

Arrival	Colouring
Story	Welcome to Our World 1
Game	Gogo'im (Israeli Game)
Activity	Buddhist Decorative Mandala
Song	Punchinella, Little Fella (Jamaican Dance Game)

Programme Planner – Week 2

Arrival	Colouring
Story	Welcome to Our World 2
Activity	Hindu Diwali Light
Game	Catch the Dragon's Tail (Chinese Game)



Shopping List:
Shoebox
Mini Bean Bags or Balls
Air-dry Clay
Variety of Dry Beans
Tealights (battery type)
Glue
Paper Strips
Tissue Paper (Red, Orange and Yellow)
Mini Tinsel or other thin
Decorative Braid
iPhone to play music
Printing:
Colouring Sheets
Preparation:
Make the Gogo'im Box
Download the Songs
Prepare the Tealights.

How to run each part of the programme:

Welcome to Our World Story

How: Leader of the story highlights things from the book and asks the young people to discuss the traditions and differences of people from other cultures. Over the two weeks, pick out different themes for discussion.

Gogo'im Game

Prep: Make a target box (shoe box or larger) by cutting a hole in the top lid, slightly bigger than the playing pieces.

How: Place the box on the floor and set a marker a short distance away (about 3 steps back) to stand behind. The Participants traditionally use apricot pits to play or small balls or beanbags. Split into two teams and give each team an equal starting pool of same coloured tossing pieces. Stand behind the marker and toss your pieces trying to get them through the holes in the box. If a piece goes through a hole, the team wins that number of points.

Buddhist Decorative Mandala

How: Participants have a piece of air-dry clay, which they roll into a ball and then flatten into a coaster with hands. Everyone chooses a variety of coloured beans and press them firmly into the clay to make a decorative pattern. Leave flat to dry to harden.

Punchinella, Little Fella

Prep: Download the song.

How: Players stand in a circle and take turns to stand in the middle. The Song is played and the person in the middle makes up a dance, which everyone follows. Each time the words are repeated, the main dancer changes with another player.

Punchinella, Little Fella Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9rAUqvisKo>

Hindu Diwali Lights

Prep: Battery tea lights can be wrapped in paper ahead of the meeting and left overnight to stick.

How: Participants tear strips of coloured tissue paper and stick to paper covered tealight to make "flames". Mini tinsel or other decorative tape are added to further decorate the tealight (see photo).

Catch the Dragon's Tail

How: Participants stand in a line with their hands on the shoulders of the person in front to make a dragon. As the music plays the "HEAD" of the dragon tries to catch up with the "TAIL" of the dragon, without the line breaking. When the tail is caught, a new head is picked from another place in the line.

Dragon Dance Music: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1_3YRI3YXs

Music from other cultures can be played during the activities.

