

1.2. CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

WHAT CONCEPTS SHOULD YOU KNOW AS EDUCATOR?

Traditions and customs are **key** to cultural identity. They act as a “**social glue**”, connecting individuals to their families, communities, and history.

Understanding this concept is essential for appreciating why these practices are so important to people and why they should be respected. Sharing traditions fosters empathy and helps students see beyond their own experiences.



How can you explain it to the students?

Ask your students to think about special moments in their families or communities. These could be celebrations, special meals, or rituals that happen at the same time every year.

Explain that these events are like a shared story that people tell together. They help us remember who we are and where we come from. Tell them that sharing these stories helps others get to know us better and understand what is important to us.

Activities

Activity In Class

Students prepare a short oral or visual presentation about a celebration or tradition in their home or community. Make sure that everyone has the same time to present.

After presentations, compare different traditions: *What is similar? What is unique?*

Example:

- Miguel explains the “Day of the Dead” and how his family decorates an altar.
- Greta shows photos of her town’s summer festival with music and fireworks.

Explanation: Traditions are a strong part of our cultural identity. Sharing them helps others understand us.



Activities

Individual Activity

Think of a tradition in your family or community.

Answer these questions:

- What is the tradition?
- When does it happen?
- Why is it important to you?

Present it as a presentation, short video, or oral explanation.

Exercise for students (Class discussion): After all presentations, ask students to vote on which tradition they would most like to participate in and why. This encourages respectful dialogue about different cultural practices.

Tips for Teachers:

Encourage respect and curiosity. Students can ask each other questions after each presentation to practice active listening.

KEY MESSAGE

Traditions help us remember who we are and where we come from.