

United States

Johnny Appleseed- pan hats and apple stamping

Israel

We chose a Yiddish folktale, It Could Always Be Worse, by Margot Zemach. This story is about a Rabbi who dispenses advice and justice. His guidance turns out to be truly wise even when it may appear to be a bit odd to us at first. Our activity will involve telling the story using the children as actors portraying the various people and animals depicted. Because this tale has a moral, it can also be considered a fable. Haifa, Israel has the Museum of Ethnology and Folklore with over 20,000 folktales from various Jewish communities including Eastern Europe where It Could Always Be Worse originates.

Canada

Our story is Winnie the Pooh. We will be teaching the children how Winnie the Pooh came to be and what the connection is to Canada. Did you know that Winnie was named for Winnipeg, Canada? They will also hear the Canadian national anthem, see the flag and look on a map to see where Canada is located.

South Africa

Marriage of the Rain Goddess is about a rain goddess named Mbabo Mwana Waresa who live in the clouds and was lonely. She wants someone that is worthy of her love. From the sky, Mbabo looks down and sees a happy cattle herder, Thandiwe. She sends him love letters with her colorful beads. For our activity, we will have our students make a beaded bracelet and draw a colorful picture.

Venezuela

I will be reading in Spanish and English El Cucuyo y La Mora. After sharing indigenous articles from Venezuela, the children will make masks of the flower and the firefly.

Venezuela

I will be reading in Spanish and English the legend Wings and Dreams: the Legend of Angel Falls. We will play Venezuelan music. In smaller groups, we will show them crafts and items typical of the indigenous people of Venezuela, play a bingo game, read other books in Spanish.

Israel

Story of the tooth fairy

US

We're doing Johnny Appleseed: short video and a writing activity in a cut-out apple to show connection to America. Then if time, we will do another fun activity.

Canada

Canada ABCs- A book about the people and places of Canada

The students will complete a package about Canada that they may take home (color the flag, Canadian vocabulary, Canadian word search..etc)

Colombia

Tell The Legend of the Colombia Mermaid. It dates back to 1917 and tells the story of a young girl who defies her parents and went swimming in the river on Good Friday. We will also do a scavenger hunt and create a book on Colombia that each student will bring home.

Colombia

Story about people being lazy and monkeys that are created as helpers that end up taking over the village. We are making monkey prints like mola art from Colombia

Israel

We will read a Hebrew book called: The Lion who Loved TuT (Strawberry). We will discuss it and watch a fun video about the book. We will end with a word search activity.

Mexico

Story about sombreros. Students will then make mustaches and sombreros

Russia

Story about The Magic Gold Fish. Students will be rotating between stations learning about the Russian culture, currency, clothing, food.

US

Tall tales with Paul Bunyan

Venezuela

We will be introducing the students to internationally known Venezuelan conductor Maestro Dudamel and the Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra via a performance of Scheherazade. The students will experience how literature is portrayed in music. And they will learn that Venezuela has the foremost renown youth symphony in the world to date.

France

We are reading the story, Stone Soup, which is based on an old French tale. The story is about three hungry soldiers who outwit the greedy inhabitants of a village into providing them with a feast. Each student will be given a real “stone.” They will be asked to write one word on the stone, which represents a wonderful trait they possess. They will then place their stone in a huge soup pot and be mixed together. All these wonderful individual traits/stones that each child possesses, when added to the pot, (the Hillel community) makes for a stronger community. When the Literacy Day activities are over, we will pour the stones in the planted area outside the cafeteria, as a symbol of Hillel students working together to make a stronger whole Hillel community!