

Grade Level(s): 2-8

Older students will be more independent and can include more detail in their research and presentations.

Time: 1-2 class periods (2-3 hours)

Timing will greatly depend on the age of the students and the amount of detail you want them to include in their notes/presentations.



Objectives:

Students will:

- Learn how to identify appropriate resources for a specific topic, holidays around the world.
- Prepare a brief presentation for the class on their chosen holiday by Expression Style groups.
- What objectives can you integrate from your own curriculum?
 - Research skills
 - Persuasive writing
 - Expository writing
 - Identifying relevant information
 - Presentation skills (oral and product)
 - Cooperative Group skills

Materials:

- Computer per student/group
- Internet Access
- Teacher computer with projector/speakers
- Holiday Scavenger Hunt handouts
- Presentation Materials for various Expression Styles (such as hands-on, artistic, musical)

Prepare:

- Handouts for students
- Use the Renzulli Learning Grouping feature to assign students by preferred EXPRESSION STYLES, under My Students/Manage Groups, 4-5 students per group.
- Advanced Renzulli Teacher Skill (for older students): Create Collaborative Groups with a Message Board where students can record their resources and notes for sharing.

Directions:

1. **Introduction:** As a whole class, brainstorm what Winter Holidays they know of. Chart on paper, or the board – (electronic or old school!)
2. **Assign student groups:** Once in their groups, have students “turn & talk” for a few minutes about their assigned Expression Style. Why do they like that one?

3. **Have groups decide (or assign) which Holiday they would like to investigate.**
They can start with a search on “holiday” to get general information and more potential ideas for which Winter Holidays are possible. Have groups write on the board when they have selected their holiday, trying to avoid duplications. They should consider how much information is available on their selection.
4. **Search the Database Demonstration:** Depending on student age and familiarity with searching the Renzulli Enrichment database, spend a few minutes demonstrating the search function, trying both a general Search and Advanced Search. Be sure to show the students “Search your own Enrichment Activities” and “Search the entire Renzulli Database” so they can see how the number of resources will change.
5. **Distribute the Scavenger Hunt handouts:** Review the handout, pointing out that not all holidays will fit all Enrichment Categories. They can skip and/or change as needed. The idea is to help familiarize them with various categories for research purposes.
6. **Questions are Important!** There are a few questions to get things started on the back of the Scavenger Hunt page. What other questions do they want to find answers to? New questions may come up as they begin to research – encourage students to record them as they think of them.
7. **Exploration Time!** Students will search “Holidays” as well as their specific chosen holiday to find as many resources as are available to them. For older students who know how to Evaluate sources, you may want to allow them to try other Search Tools as well. They can take notes on the back of their handout, in “Notes” in Renzulli Learning, or any other way they are comfortable with.
8. **Prepare a Presentation:** Based on their Expression Style, how does each group want to present their holiday to the class? Let them get creative and get their hands on whatever materials are needed. If this can be on a different day, they will have more time to collect materials, or you can make it an “off the cuff” presentation.
9. **Presentations:** If your class is not used to giving/watching presentations, spend a few minutes reminding them of how a good audience behaves, and that you will be looking for them to know about the various holidays after the presentation.
10. **Closure - Oral or Written:**
 - a. What did you learn today that you didn’t know before about a particular holiday?
 - b. What did you like about seeing the different Expression Styles?