



# MAY DAY

**Lesson Length:** 1.25 hours

**Vocabulary & Expressions:** Vocabulary related to May Day and International Workers Day

**Language/Culture Point:** Ordinal numbers

**Objective:** Students will be able to talk about May Day celebrations in the U.S. and around the world.

**Materials:** Calendar page for the month of May, computer projector, PowerPoint presentation, PowerPoint slides (teacher and student sets), slips of paper with the lines from the PowerPoint, number cards, ball




## STEP 1: ACTIVATE BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Calendar page for the month of May	- Brainstorming - Graphic Organizers

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Put up a calendar page for the month of May.
2. Tell students there are many holidays celebrated in May around the world. Make a chart with 2 columns labeled 'In the U.S.' and 'In other Countries'. Brainstorm with students the different holidays and celebrations in the month of May, filling in the chart with students.
3. Discuss the dates on the board and clarify any words as necessary.

## STEP 2: MINI-PRESENTATION WITH PROMPT

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- May Day PowerPoint  - Computer and projector - Printed PowerPoint slides (teacher set)	- Teaching with PowerPoint - Using Pictures



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## TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Give a presentation to the class on the ways people around the world celebrate May Day. You may choose to use the PowerPoint that goes with this lesson, or other realia and images of your own. Below is a sample presentation as a guide:  
May 1st is a holiday in many countries.  
In some countries it is a holiday to honor workers.  
In some countries it is a holiday to celebrate spring.  
In the U.S., children make May baskets with flowers and candy.  
In some cities, people march in parades to support the rights of workers.  
People also march in parades to support the rights of immigrants.  
How do you celebrate May 1st in your home country?
2. The first time you read through the presentation, have students focus only on listening. Discuss with students what they understood. Go through your presentation again one or more times highlighting key vocabulary and main points.

## STEP 3: DISCUSSION AND COMPREHENSION CHECK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Printed PowerPoint slides (student sets)</li><li>- Individual slips of paper with lines from your presentation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Using Pictures</li></ul>

## TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Pass out sheets with the slides from your May Day presentation to pairs of students. Also pass out slips of paper with the lines from your presentation.
2. Have students work together to match lines from the presentation with the corresponding slides from the presentation.



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## STEP 4: HIGHLIGHT LESSON FOCUS AND MODEL TASK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Pages with images from your PowerPoint presentation	- Think Aloud - Picture Stories

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Hold up large versions of the images from the presentation on separate sheets of paper. Use Think Aloud to model arranging the images in the correct order.
2. Use the images to help retell the presentation in your own words.

## STEP 5: GUIDED PRACTICE

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
5 minutes	- Pages with images from your PowerPoint presentation	- Picture Stories

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Ask a student to volunteer to retell the presentation.

## STEP 6: PAIR OR SMALL GROUP WORK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
15 minutes	- Pages with images from your PowerPoint presentation	- Picture Stories

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Pass out full-sized versions of the images from the presentation on separate sheets of paper to pairs of students. Have pairs reorder the presentation images.
2. Once students have reordered the images, have them take turns retelling the presentation to their partner.



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## STEP 7: HIGHLIGHT HOW ENGLISH WORKS

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Number cards	

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Write 'May 1st' on the board. Ask students what the 'st' on the end of '1st' means and discuss as a class. Explain '1' represents a number while '1st' represent an order. Use realia to demonstrate your point.
2. Write the numbers '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '6', etc. on the board. Next to the cardinal numbers, write the corresponding ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, etc.)
3. Ask students to look for a pattern. Help them discover that to change '1' from a number to an order you add 'st', '2' you add 'nd', '3' you add 'rd', and all other numbers you add 'th'.
4. Pass out cards to students with numbers and 'st', 'rd', 'nd', and 'th'. Have students practice matching cardinal numbers with the correct endings to form ordinal numbers.

## STEP 8: QUICK CHECK AND REVIEW

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
5 minutes	- Ball	- Ball Toss

### TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Stand in a circle with students. Say what you are going to do on May Day. Then throw the ball to a student and ask them to tell the class what they are going to do on May Day.
2. Have students continue throwing the ball to each other and telling their May Day plans until you've circled through all students.