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Move Up

STEAM TIME

A NEW LOCAL FESTIVAL



Fully aligned with NEM
MCCEMS program



PLATFORM
LMS
LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM





A NEW LOCAL FESTIVAL



CHALLENGE

Your school or local community ask you to design an attractive, informative and sustainable festival or event to showcase your local area and traditions.



WARM UP

*Have you visited any local, national or international festivals?
What did they celebrate? What did you see or do there?*



READ

♦ Read the text to learn about an unusual traditional Mexican festival.

Have you ever visited Oaxaca? Well, I have. I've been there three times before, but my last trip in December last year was my favorite visit. And I want to tell you why.

My family visited the state of Oaxaca in south-west Mexico during the Christmas vacations. My dad took us to the main square in the state's capital of Oaxaca City on the night of December 23. When we arrived there, we saw many stalls with beautiful sculptures of all different shapes and sizes: it was incredible!

But, the most unbelievable thing was the material used to make these works of art. They're not made out of wood, or stone, or metal or even sand. Let me explain...

Have you heard of the Night of the Radishes? Me neither! My dad investigated this strange festival on the internet before our trip and he organized everything. This is an annual festival and celebration here in Oaxaca and it's crazy: beautiful works of art made out of radishes!

Apparently, the festival originally started in the mid-18th century by some local friars and farmers. One year, the radish crop was so abundant with such massive radishes that local farmers simply abandoned some in the fields.

Two friars pulled up some of the most unusually shaped radishes and took them to the local

annual Christmas market on December 23, as a type of curiosity.

These large radishes of strange shapes attracted a lot of attention and some people started to carve them into different shapes, especially religious themes.

Later, in 1897, the mayor of Oaxaca City, Francisco Vasconcelos, formally recognized the event and even decided to create a competition, which the city has celebrated ever since then.

Today, the event uses over 12 tons of radishes and has various different categories of sculptures, including local traditions and nativity scenes. More than 100 competitors enter the competition and try to win the top prize for the best sculpture of around \$15,000 pesos! There's even a category for children between 6 and 12 years of age!

But, if you want to see these sculptures, you need to be fast and be prepared to wait in line for more than 4 hours. The event attracts over 18,000 visitors, but it only lasts for a few hours, because the radishes start to rot!

Have you ever been to a similar festival? Would you like to visit the Night of the Radishes?

Ricky





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♦ Read the text again carefully to answer these questions about Ricky's description.

1. Was this Ricky's first trip to Oaxaca?

2. Where exactly is the Night of the Radishes festival held?

3. When is the festival?

4. How did Ricky's dad learn about this festival?

5. What are the sculptures at the festival made of?

6. Why did the local farmers abandon their radish crops one year in the 18th century?

7. Why did the friars originally take some of the radishes to the market?

8. When did the radish sculpture competition begin?

9. Name three different categories of sculptures in the competition.

10. Why is the festival only a few hours long?



♦ A good way to build your understanding and locate details in a text is to scan for all the numbers. Use the information in the text to describe what each number refers to and complete these spaces.

1. 23 -

2. 1897 -

3. 12 -

4. 100 -

5. 15,000 -

6. 6 and 12 -

7. 4 -

8. 18,000 -



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- ♦ What festivals have you visited? What did you see and do there? What did the festival celebrate? Complete the table below with all the relevant information about one of the festivals you have visited.

Festival Name:	
Location:	
People:	
History:	
Events:	
Foods?	
Other Information:	



- ♦ Ask classmates, friends and family members about previous local events or festivals they have attended. What did they like? What didn't they like?
- ♦ Use these questions to help you get started. Remember to ask more follow-up questions with past simple to get more details.



Have you ever participated in a public celebration?

Have you ever attended a local festival?

Was the event outdoors or indoors?

What foods or products have you bought at these events?

What did you see at the event?





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- ◆ Discuss what you learnt from people's previous experiences. What things did they like? What things did they not like? Complete the table below with all the details they gave you.

POSITIVE EVENT ELEMENTS	NEGATIVE EVENT ELEMENTS



- ◆ So, what have you learnt from this? What do you want to include in your festival? What will you celebrate? Think of a suitable name for your event.

Our festival name: _____

Event purpose/origin: _____

Elements to include:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



- ◆ Now, add all the relevant details for your event. Think of the location, time, date, weather considerations, promotion and advertising, sustainability factors, food and drinks and other activities and pricing.



- ◆ Design an appropriate schedule and programme for the events of the festival. Include start/opening times and finish/closing times and all relevant details.



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- ◆ Design a full, detailed map and layout for the event location. Include all relevant stands and areas. Include these points in your map.



entrance



exit



information
point



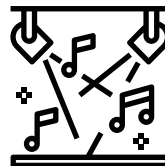
food area
sale/consumption



restrooms



first aid point



activity area(s)



any other relevant
areas



- ◆ Design a logo and promotional poster for your event. Make sure your poster includes the festival name and clearly transmits the message behind your event.



- ◆ Make a presentation or report to your teacher or group about what you have learnt from people's previous experiences and why you have chosen this new festival. Include these points in your presentation:

- ☐ A detailed description of positive and negative elements of previous experiences
- ☐ Correct use of past simple and present perfect to describe past experiences
- ☐ An attractive festival name and origin description, linked to the local community
- ☐ A detailed map of the new event space with all areas clearly labelled
- ☐ An attractive promotional poster with all relevant details
- ☐ A detailed event programme and schedule
- ☐ Include environmental and sustainable elements to your event
- ☐ Demonstrate local historical or environmental elements of the event
- ☐ A detailed oral explanation of all elements of the festival, with reasons and justifications
- ☐ Clear explanation of how and why the event showcases the local community