

Before You Read



Think Answer the questions.

- 1 What sports do you like to play with your friends?
- 2 What fun things do you do at your school?
- 3 What do you celebrate with your family?



Learn Facts

A **fact** is true. You can check a fact to see that it's true.

A soccer ball is round.

Some sentences are not facts. They often start with "I think."

I think all soccer balls should be yellow.

Check (✓) the sentences that are facts. Talk about your answers with a partner.

- ☐ I think blue is the nicest color.
- ☐ Our team colors are blue and white.
- ☐ George and I are in the third grade.
- ☐ I think jogging is fun.
- ☐ I think my team is great.
- ☐ The fair is on Saturday.
- ☐ I like festivals.

E Words in Context Scan the photo essay on pages 10–11 and circle these words. As you read, try to guess what they mean.

envelopes championship athletes bands

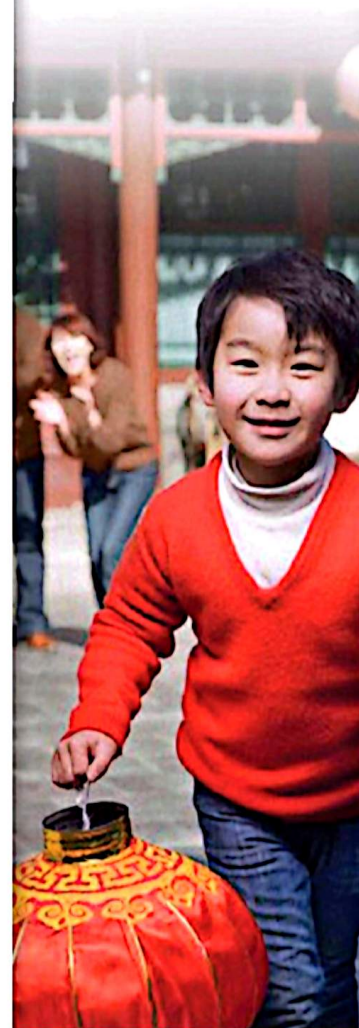
F Answer the question before you read.

- 1 Look at the pictures in the photo essay on pages 10–11.
- 2 How do you think the people feel?

Having Fun

In this *photo essay*, we look at pictures and read about festivals, celebrations, and fun events around the world. Photo essays have pictures to help us understand. As you read, think about which sentences are facts.

Social Studies:
Culture



Having Fun

It's important to have fun if you want a happy and healthy life. Here are some ways people enjoy life all over the world.

Festivals

Think Is the first sentence a fact?

Some people think the Chinese New Year is the most important festival in China. Families clean their homes and then enjoy delicious food. Children often get money in red paper envelopes.

In Korea and Japan, Children's Day is on May 5th. Children and their parents spend the day together and go to zoos and parks. Some families fly kites.



In India, families enjoy Diwali, the festival of lights. Families light candles and decorate their homes with flowers. People give gifts, and there is dancing and music.



Sports

These men are playing an exciting game called soccer. Every four years, people watch their favorite players at the World Cup soccer championships. The team that wins the championship game is the best team in the world!

Another popular game is volleyball. People play volleyball in 211 countries. You can play volleyball inside or on the beach. The first team to reach a score of 25 is the winner.

Many people watch the summer and winter Olympic Games. Almost every country in the world sends its best athletes to race and play at these games. Some athletes swim, and others run or jump to see which athletes are the best.



Think Is the last sentence a fact?

Family Celebrations

When a girl turns 15 years old in Mexico, her family and friends often celebrate with food and dancing. This also happens in many parts of Central and South America.

A wedding is always a big celebration! In Egypt, dancers and musicians gather around the married couple and dance for up to one hour! Then people eat a special dinner.

People celebrate family reunions all over the world. Aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents come together to eat and have fun.



Community Events

Folk dance is popular around the world. In Turkey, folk dancers wear colorful costumes and dance at weddings and festivals. People like to watch folk dances, but they also like to dance themselves!



A fair is a great place for people to come together and have fun. Many fairs have farm animals, delicious food, fun games, and bands that play music.

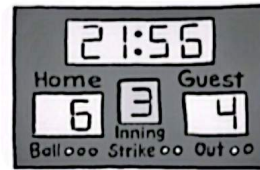
B Circle the correct answers.

1 She's a _____.



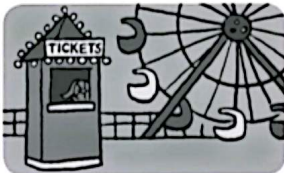
- a player
- b winner**
- c team

2 What's the _____?



- a winner
- b player
- c score**

3 They're at a _____.



- a fair
- b family reunion
- c race

4 They're at a _____.



- a festival
- b wedding
- c folk dance

C Look and write.



1 She's a _____ player.



2 They're a _____.



3 They're doing a _____.



4 They're in a _____.

D Circle *True* or *False*.

- 1 A wedding is a time when two people get married.
- 2 In many sports, the winners are the players with the highest score.
- 3 A race is a competition to see who is the slowest to do something.
- 4 A family reunion is for people who see each other often.

True False
True False
True False
True False

Read

- A** Read the article. What do the people of Harbin do?
- B** Read the article again. What are the facts in the article? Remember, you can check a fact to see that it's true.

Harbin Ice and Snow Festival

Harbin is a town in northeast China. In winter, it is very cold. The average temperature in January is about -18°C . Some people call Harbin the "Ice City."

During the Qing Dynasty, the people in Harbin made ice lanterns. The ice lanterns were very beautiful.

Think Underline two facts in this paragraph.

Years later, the people of Harbin decided to have an ice and snow **festival**. Artists from all over the world go to Harbin to make the sculptures. First, the artists collect piles of ice from the countryside. Then they carve the ice into buildings, gardens, flowers, dragons, and other things.

Think Is the last sentence a fact?



There are a lot of exciting activities during the festival. There are **team** competitions in ice hockey and winter swimming. There are also skiing **races**. If you are interested, you can see people doing **folk dances** and singing folk songs. There are even **weddings** on the ice.

There is something for everyone at the festival. There are trade **fairs** for buying and selling things. People from all over the world can visit the ice sculptures, enjoy the fun activities, and learn about products made in Harbin.