

# Customary Celebrations & Activities in U.S. Elementary Public Schools



This parent resource supports inclusive participation and awareness for all students in customary celebrations that are typical in many US public schools.

This information about typical school celebrations is provided to further support EL students and their families for a better understanding of school activities they will witness and may choose to be a part of.

Customary Celebration Awareness enables families to choose if and how their students participate, ensuring everyone is included.

Typically, at the beginning of the school year, your student may receive a school or classroom calendar. Sometimes these are sent home in folders for each month of the school year.

On the calendar, you may notice holidays and special celebrations marked or highlighted. We encourage parents and caregivers to ask questions and learn about these customs so that you and your child have the chance to participate, if they so choose, in any upcoming celebrations that might be happening. Often, English learner students miss out on the chance to participate in events because they are unaware of school celebrations happening in the US school and classroom culture.

The following typical celebrations are described to make you aware of activities that might be typically celebrated within the school setting. Be sure to ask your school about any of these and how your school might be celebrating them.



## Birthdays

Birthdays are typically personal celebrations, but many schools will have the option for you to bring cupcakes or celebrate your child's birthday in a special way if it falls on a school day. Be sure to ask the front office for their policies on birthdays. If allowed, many parents often

bring cupcakes or a special treat for the class. There is no cultural expectation beyond this. Your child might receive a special sticker or pencil at school or be sung to as a celebration of their birthday.



## Federal Holidays

Elementary schools in the US typically observe and celebrate the following federal holidays by closing school for the day and/or by engaging in classroom and school activities such as patriotic music, flag ceremonies, and classroom discussions about the historical significance of the holidays.

### **Juneteenth (June 19th)**

A federal holiday in celebration of the end of slavery in the United States. (No school on this day)

### **Independence Day (July 4th)**

A federal holiday in celebration of United States independence from Britain. (No school on this day)

### **Memorial Day (May 29th)**

A federal holiday honoring fallen soldiers who died while serving the United States. (No School on this day)

### **Veterans Day (November 11th)**

A federal holiday honoring the service of those who have served in the military. (No School on this day)

### **President's Day (3rd Monday of February)**

Celebrates the first president of the United States George Washington and all presidents after. (Usually no school on this day)



## Back to School Events

At the beginning of the school year many elementary schools organize events to welcome students and their families. This is done so that parents can have the opportunity to meet teachers, tour the school, and learn about the upcoming year.

### Open House

An event which allows parents to come tour the school and meet their children's teachers.

### PTO (Parent Teacher Organization)

An organization where parents are given the opportunity to volunteer and work with other parents by organizing and helping their children and their classrooms for school events. This group usually holds monthly meetings for the adults.

### Ice-cream and Socials

Events that offer dessert and fun activities for to celebrate and build relationships with the community.



## More Celebrations

### Black History Month (February)

February is recognized as Black History Month in the US and elementary schools often dedicate time to learning about the achievements and contributions of African Americans throughout history. This may involve classroom projects, presentations, guest speakers, or school performances.

### Read Across America (March 2nd)

Read Across America is a celebration of reading (literacy) that happens to also be on the birthday of a well known children's author, Dr. Seuss. Elementary schools often celebrate this day with reading activities and dress up days inspired by characters from children's books. Your child will often be allowed to pick a book character they want to dress up as. Many of these costumes are made with items already in the home. Dressing up is an optional but fun activity that many schools offer. Check with your school about this!

### Red Ribbon Week (in the month of October)

This month celebrates the prevention of drugs and violence. Sometimes your child will be allowed to be silly and have fun in their dress on different days of the week during this month. Examples of this might be: on Monday they can wear

silly socks, Tuesday have silly hair, Wednesday wear the color red, and so on. This is usually not mandatory and depends on the school guidelines. You can choose for your child to participate in these optional and fun activities.

### Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is in celebration of love, and in school settings, students will often have a party or exchange cards and candy with one another. In some schools, students will be allowed to bring a cardboard shoe box to school and decorate it to hold the cards and candy they have received from their classmates. It is customary to bring a piece of candy or a note for classmates.

### Easter

This holiday, at the school level, is a celebration of spring and, sometimes, the Easter bunny. The Easter bunny is a warm and fluffy character that may bring children plastic decorated eggs filled with candy. Your child might receive or make these easter eggs at school or even have an easter egg hunt. An easter egg hunt is where the adults hide the eggs for students to find and collect – often in a bucket or basket. This is done for fun and in celebration of spring.



## School Activities

### Science Fair

Organized event where your child creates and presents a science project for their classmates and the school community. Often times they award projects based on first, second, and third place.

### Field Trips

Enriching activities for classes outside of school, that require parent permission. These often include trips to the zoo, museum and other educational places. Often parents can volunteer and join their child and class on these trips. Be sure to ask if this is a possibility at your school!

### Winter Holiday Celebrations

Many elementary schools hold winter holiday celebrations to acknowledge various cultural traditions. These celebrations may include songs,

school performances, and displays that represent different winter holidays such as Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or Diwali. There is typically a winter break off of school, in celebration of this that is about a period of two weeks. Your child will be able to be at home with family celebrations during this time. The week before the break there are celebrations on designated days where kids make crafts or art work, and can even come to school in their pajamas for winter snacks and movies!

### Class parties

A school day with a party that is organized by the teacher for the class.



## End-of-Year Celebrations

Towards the end of the school year, elementary schools will often organize events to commemorate students' achievements. These celebrations may include the following:

### Award/graduation ceremonies

A school wide celebration that parents can attend that has a ceremony of your student graduating to the next grade level and/or that presents awards of their character or academics recognized throughout the year.

### Talent Shows

A school wide celebration that parents can attend where your student has signed up to participate in showcasing their talent like singing or dancing.

### Field Day

An all-day school wide celebration that parents can attend that has multiple outdoor activities and games your child's class can participate in. There are often fun snacks that can be bought, or that are given, at these events.

It is important to note that celebrations may vary across different schools and districts, as they reflect the cultural diversity and local preferences of the communities they serve.

# Dabaaldegyada Dhaqanka iyo Hawlaha Dugsiyada Hoose ee Dadweynaha ee Maraykanka

Ilaha waalidka waxa uu taageeraa ka-qaybgalka iyo wacyi-gelinta loo dhan yahay oo loogu talagalay dhammaan ardayda xafadaha dhaqanka kuwaas oo caadi ka ah in badan oo ka mid ah dugsiyada dadweynaha Maraykanka.

Macluumaadka ku saabsan dabaaldegyada caadiga ah ee dugsiya waxaa la siiyaa taageero dheeraad ah oo loo siiyo ardayda EL iyo qoysaskooda si ay u helaan faham fiican oo ku saabsan waxqabadka dugsiya oo ay goobjoog ka noqon doonaan waxaana laga yaabaa inay doortaan inay qayb ka noqdaan.

Wacyi-gelinta Xafadaha Dhaqanka ayaa awood u siineysa qoysaska inay doortaan haddii iyo sida ay ardaydoodu uga qaybqaataan, hubinta in qof walba lagu daro.

Sida caadiga ah, bilowga sanad-dugsiyeedka ayuu ardaygaadu heli karaa kalalandarka iskuulka ama kan fasalka. Mararka qaar waxaa guryaha loo soo diraa faylal bil kasta ee sanad dugsiyeedka.

Kalandarka waxaa laga yaabaa in aad ku aragto ciidaha iyo dabbaaldegyada gaarka ah oo la calaamadeeyey ama lagu muujiyay. Waxaan ku dhiirigelinaynaa waalidiinta iyo daryeelayaasha inay su'aalo weydiyaan oo ay wax ka bartaan dhaqamada si adiga iyo ilmahaaguba aad fursad ugu heshaan inaad ka qayb gashaan, haddii ay sidaa ku doortaan, xafad kastoo soo socota oo dhici karta. Inta badan ardayda barata luuqada Ingiriiska waxay ka tagaan fursad ay kaga qayb galaan xafadaha sababtoo ah ma oga dabaaldegyada iskuulada ee ka dhaca dugsiya Maraykanka iyo dhaqanka fasalka.

Dabaaldegyada caadiga ah ee soo socda ayaa lagu tilmaamay si aad u ogaato hawlaha laga yaabo in caadi ahaan lagu dabaal dego gudaha goobta dugsiya. U hubso inaad weydiiso dugsiagaaga mid ka mid ah kuwan iyo sida laga yaabo in dugsiagaaga loo dabaaldegayo.



## Maalmaha Dhalashada

Maalmaha dhalashadu caadiyan waa dabaaldeg shakhsiyadeed, lakiin dugsiyo badan ayaa kuu dooran doona inaad keento doolshe ama u dabaaldegi karto dhalashada cunugaaga si gaar ah haddii ay dhacdo maalin iskuul. Hubso in aad xafiiska hore weydiiso siyaasadahooda maalinta dhalashada. Haddii la

ogolaado, waalidiin badan ayaa inta badan keena doolshe ama daryeel khaas ah fasalka. Ma jirto rajo dhaqameed oo intaas dhaafsiisan. Waxaa laga yaabaa in ilmahaagu uu iskuulka ka helo istiikaro gaar ah ama qalin ama in loogu heeso dabaaldega dhalashadooda.



## Fasaxyada Federaalka

Dugsiyada hoose ee Maraykanka waxay caadi ahaan ilaaliyaan oo u dabaaldegaan fasaxyada federaalka ee soo socda iyagoo xiraya dugsiya maalinta iyo / ama ay ka qayb galaan hawlaha fasalka iyo dugsiya sida muusikada waddaniga ah, xafadaha calanka, iyo doodaha fasalka oo ku saabsan muhiimadda taariikhiga ah ee fasaxyada.

### Juneteenth (19 ka juun)

Fasaxa federaalka oo loogu dabaaldegayo dhammaadkii addoonsiga ayaa lagu qabtay Maraykanka. (Dugsi majiro maalintan)

### Maalinta Xoriyadda (Luulyo4-teeda)

Waa fasax federaal ah oo loogu dabaal-dego xornimadii ay Mareykanka ka qaateen Ingiriiska. States independence from Britain. (Dugsi majiro maalintan)

### Maalinta Xuska (Maajo 29-keeda)

Fasax federaal ah oo lagu maamuusayo askartii geeriyootay ee dhintay iyagoo u adeegaya Maraykanka. (Dugsi majiro maalintan)

### Maalinta Halyeeyada (11-kii Nofeembar)

Waa fasax federaal ah oo lagu maamuusayo adeega dadka usoo shaqeeyay ciidanka militariga. (Dugsi majiro maalintan)

### Maalinta Madaxweynaha (Isniinta 3-da Febraayo)

ayaa loo dabaal degaa madaxweynihii ugu horreeyay ee Mareykanka George Washington iyo madaxweynayaashii ka dambeeyay oo dhan. (Sida caadiga ah dugsi majiro maalinta).



## Ku Noqoshada Xafladaha Dugsiga

Bilowga sanad-dugsiyeedka ayaa dugsiyo badan oo hoose ah waxaa ay abaabulaan xaflado lagu soo dhaweynayo ardayda iyo qoysaskooda. Tan waxaa loo sameeyaa si waalidku ay fursad ugu helaan inay la kulmaan macalimiinta, ayna dugsiga u booqdaan, waxna ka bartaan sanadka soo socda.

### Open House

Munaasabad u ogolaanaysa waalidiinta inay soo booqdaan dugsiga oo ay la kulmaan macalimiinta carruurtooda.

### PTO (Ururka Macalinka iyo Waalidka)

Waa urur kaasoo waalidiinta siinaya fursad ay ku tabarucaan oo ay kula shaqeeyaan waalidiinta kale iyaga oo abaabulaya oo ka caawinaya carruurtooda iyo fasaladooda xafladaha dugsiga. Kooxdani waxay inta badan dadka waaweyn u qaban qaabiyaa shirar bil kasta ah.

### Jalaatada iyo

munaasabadaha bulshada oo bixiya macmacaan iyo waxqabadyo xiiso leh oo loogu dabaaldegayo laguna dhisayo xiriirka bulshada.



## Dabaaldegyo Badan

### Bisha Taariikhda Madow (Febraayo)

Febraayo waxaa loo aqoonsaday inay tahay Bisha Taariikhda Madow ee Maraykanka iyo dugsiyada hoose waxayna inta badan waqti u huraan barashada guulaha iyo wax-ka-qabadka dadka Afrikaanka Ameerikaanka ah taariikhda oo dhan. Tan waxaa laga yaabaa in ay ku lug leedahay mashaariicda fasalka, bandhigyo, la hadlida martida, ama bandhigyada dugsiga.

### Read Across America (March 2nd)

Read Across America waa debaaldega akhriska (qorista) taasoo sidoo kale dhacda maalinta dhalashada qoraaga carruurta ee caanka ah, Dr. Seuss. Dugsiyada hoose waxay inta badan xusaan maalintan waxqabadyo wax akhris ah, iyo labis maalmo ah oo dhiirigalinaya jilayaasha buugaagta carruurta. Ilmahaaga inta badan waxaa loo oggolaan doonaa inuu soo qaado jilaaga buuga uu doonayo inuu u labisto. Dharkaas in badan oo ka mid ah waxaa lagu sameeyey alaab horay utaalay guriga. Labisashada waa waxqabad ikhtiyaari ah laakiin xiiso leh oo ay dugsiyo badan bixiyaan. Ka hubi dugsigaaga arrintan ku saabsan! Toddobaadka

### Ribbon Red (bisha Oktoobar)

Bishan waxay u dabaaldegaysaa ka hortagga daroogada iyo rabshadaha. Mararka qaar waxaa ilmahaaga loo oggolaan doonaa inuu noqdo doqon oo uu ku madadaalo labiskooda maalmo kala duwan oo ka mid ah toddobaadka inta lagu jiro bishan gudaheeda. Tusaalayaasha tani waxay

noqon kartaa: Isniinta waxay xiran karaan sigisaan wasakh ah, Talaadadu waxay leeyihiin timo wasakh ah, Arbacada waxay xirtaan midab cas, iyo wixii la mid ah. Sida caadiga ah tani ma ahan qasab, waxayna ku xiran tahay tilmaamaha dugsiga.

### Maalinta jacaylka (Valentine's Day)

waa dabaal deg jacayl, iyo goobaha dugsiga, ardayda badanaa waxay yeelan doonaan xaflad ama kaararka nacnac ah oo ay is dhaafsadaan midba midka kale. Qaar ka mid ah dugsiyada waxaa loo oggolaan doonaa in ay iskuullada keenaan sanduuqa kabaha ee kartoonaada ah oo ay ku qurxiyaan si ay u helaan kaararka iyo nacnaca ay kahelaan ardayda ay isku fasalka yihiin. Waa dhaqan inta badan in lakeeno gabal nacnac ah ama qoraal loogu talagalay ardayfa ay isku fasalka yihiin.

### Fasaxa iistarku,

heerka dugsiga, waa dabaaldega gu'ga iyo, marmarka qaarkoodna waxaa la xusaa kabsaradda ciidda ciidda iistarku. Bakeylkii Iistarka waa dabeecad diiran oo fidsan taas oo keeni karta in caruurta ukunta caagga ah ay qurxiso oo ay ka buuxaan macmacaanka. Ilmahaaga waxaa laga yaabaa inuu iskuulka ku helo ama ka sameeyo ukumahaas ukumaha bariiska ama xitaa uu ku haysto ugaarsi ukun ah easter-ka. Ugaarsiga ukunta barigu waa meesha ay dadka waaweyni ku qariyaan ukunta ardayda si ay u helaan uguna soo qaadaan – oo badanaaba ku xardhan baaldi ama dambiil. Tan waxaa loo sameeyaa madadaalo iyo dabaaldegyo gu'ga.



## Waxqabadka Dugsiga

### Bandhiga Sayniska

Munaasabad lagu abaabulay halkaas oo uu ilmahaagu abuuro oo uu ku soo bandhigo mashruuc sayniska ah ee ardayda ay isku fasalka yihiin iyo bulshada dugsiga. Inta badan waxay bixiyaan mashaariic ku saleysan kaalinta koowaad, labaad iyo tan saddexaad.

### Safarada Gudaha

Waxqabadyada kobcinta ee fasallada ka baxsan dugsiga, kuwaas oo u baahan fasax waalid. Inta badan waxaa ka mid ah safarro lagu tago beerta xayawaanka, madxafka iyo meelaha kale ee waxbarashada. Badana waalidiintu waxay ku tabaruci karaan oo ku biiri karaan ilmahooda iyo fasalka safaradan. Hubi inaad waydiiso inay tani suurto gal tahay dugsigaaga iyo in kale!

### Debaaldegyada fasaxa jiilaalka

Iskuullada hoose qaar badan oo ka mid ah ayaa qabta xafladaha fasaxa jiilaalka si ay u aqoonsadaan dhaqamada kala duwan.

Dabaaldegyadaas waxaa ka mid noqon kara heeso, bandhigyo dugsiga, iyo bandhigyo matalaya fasaxyo kala duwan oo xilliga jiilaalka ah sida Christmas-ka, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa ama Diwali. Sida caadiga ah waxaa jira fasax jiilaal ah oo dugsiga ah, si loogu dabaaldegayo tan oo ku dhawaad muddo laba toddobaad ah. Ilmuhu waqtigan guriga ayuu la joogi karaa dabaaldegyada qoyska. Toddobaadka ka hor xilliga nasashada waxaa jira xaflad maalmo loogu talagalay oo ay caruurta ka dhigtaan farsamo-farshaxan iyo shaqo farshaxan, oo xitaa ay iskuulka ku imaan karaan iyagoo ku xiran dharka fudud ee jiilaalka iyo filimada!

### Xafladaha fasalka

A-dugsiyeed oo ay la socdaan xaflad uu qabanqaabiyo macalinka fasalka.



## Dabaal-gabagabada Dhamaadka Sanadka

Dhamaadka sanad-dugsiyeedka waxaa inta badan dugsiyada hoose ay qabanqaabiyaan xaflado lagu maamuusayo guulaha ay ardayda gaareen. Xafladahaas waxaa ku jiri kara sidan:

### abaalmarinta(Award) Xafladaha Qalinjabinta (Graduation Ceremonies)

Xaflad ballaadhan oo ay waalidku ka soo qaybgali karaan, taasoo leh xaflad uu leeyahay ardaygaaga oo u qalinjabinayo heerka fasalka xiga iyo/ama lagu soo bandhigayo abaalmarino dabeecada ama aqoonyahanadooda la aqoonsaday sanadka oo dhan.

### Bandhiga Kartida

wuxuu muujinayaa xaflad ballaaran oo dugsiga ah oo waalidiintu ay ka qaybgali karaan halkaasoo ay ardaydu is diiwaan gelisay si ay uga qaybqaataan bandhigga kartidooda sida heesaha ama qoob ka ciyaarka.

### Maalinta goobta

Xaflad ballaaran oo maalintaas oo dhan ahoo ay waalidiintu kasoo qaybgali karaan, taas oo leh dhaqdhaqaaqyo badan oo banaanka ah iyo cayaaraha fasalka cunuggaaga ayaa ka qaybgali kara. Waxaa jira cunto fudud oo xiiso leh oo la iibsan karo, ama lagabixiyo, dhacdooyinkan.

Waxaa muhiim ah in la ogaado in xaflado ay ku kala duwanaa karaan guud ahaan dugsiyada iyo degmooyinka kala duwan, maadaama ay ka tarjumayaan kala duwanaanshaha dhaqan iyo kala duwanaanshaha maxalliga ee bulshooyinka ay u adeegaan.