

**Unit: Celebrations Ideas**  
**Lesson Number: 21-26**

These ideas are meant to be used during the following celebration times. It is an understanding that there will be no class on the particular day. Instead, the school will work together towards the celebration. There is usually a flexible open-day of instruction in the curriculum which can be used for preparation for the ideas below if needed. Ideas are broken down into possible tasks per age group. A significant amount of planning will occur outside of the classroom and regular classroom hours. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will use these celebration ideas to develop leadership skills

***Gurū Nānak Sāhib's Prakāsh Purab: A focus on helping the needy. (This date changes every year)***

The school will work together to help a local community program, such as a homeless shelter, a hospital, a food bank, etc... On the day of the celebration, a formal trip with the children will be made to where the partnership is being developed.

*4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders:* With the help of their teachers and the school administrators, children in these grades will develop the plan for the celebration. Representatives from these grades will have an opportunity to talk to the organization to assess their needs and will then present their findings to the rest of the group. Students will come up with how they want to go about meeting those needs by involving the rest of the school and the saṅgat.

*3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders:* These children will be in charge of marketing. Their most important job will be to make poster/post-cards and specifically to market the project to the saṅgat. Depending on the group of children, they can make printed/paper announcements or make video advertisements with the help of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

*1<sup>st</sup> graders and Kindergartners:* These students will do the on-going marketing with the help of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. They can hold posters and encourage members of the community to donate or provide material for the selected organization by reminding them of the project on a regular basis.

***Holā Mahallā (14 March 2007)***

*4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:* Students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade help develop and create new games for a Sikh Sports Day. Student committees can be made to lead and encourage younger grade levels to participate in the happenings of Sikh Sports Day. Teachers can help initiate Teacher vs. Students intramurals between Teacher Team and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade student teams. This will be after the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders successfully lead and guide the younger grades through the Sikh Sports Day.

*Kindergartners to 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders:* Children in these grades participate in the Sikh Sports Day and write appreciation letters or cards for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

### ***Gurgaddī Divas Gurū Granth Sāhib (20 October)***

*4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders:* Students do presentations on how to celebrate a Gurgurab. Teacher should encourage students to develop a plan of action for a new idea that the children come up with and assist them in putting those ideas into a presentation for the saṅgat at large.

*3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders:* Students in these grades write about the Gurū Granth Sāhib and what they have learnt about it. These papers can be shared in the saṅgat or posted for everyone to read while the children stand by their writing to answer questions from the saṅgat.

*1<sup>st</sup> graders and Kindergartners:* Teachers for these students can initiate a video presentation in which they interview the children about the Gurū Granth Sāhib. A 15-20 minute video can be made and shown to the saṅgat during a divān.

### ***Māi Bhāgo/Sikh Women (Sometime in May or June)***

Students develop a local neighborhood outreach day to the larger community to educate members about Sikh women in history. Students can choose to do a play at the local elderly house or read stories on Sikh women at a local hospital or library. Children in Kindergarten to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade should have been through lessons on Sikh women.

They will participate in the neighborhood outreach day through the guidance of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders by participating in skits, speeches, drawings, etc...

*4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders* coordinate these efforts and involve the younger children in their skits or other projects depending on the plans they have made.

### ***Vaisākhī (14 April)***

*4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders:* Students interview members who have partaken in the ammrit sancār and write story to display for the saṅgat at large. Teams can be made to work on different aspects of displays for the Celebration of Vaisākhī. One team can tell the story of Vaisākhī 1699. Another team can conduct interviews. Another team can discuss challenges that individuals might face, keeping in mind aspects they have learnt about Pañj Vikārs.

*Kindergarten to Grade 3:* Children in these grades put on a Khālsā Fair, similar to a Science Fair. Individual children or teams can develop innovative projects relating to Sikhī that can be displayed on tables or the walls to be shared with the saṅgat. This project should be similar to science fairs at school and should take on a substantial aspect of parent or community help at large.

Gurpurabs

<b>Gurū Sāhib</b>	<b>Prakāsh</b>		<b>Gurgaddī</b>		<b>Jotī Jot</b>	
Nānak I	*	*	-	-	8 Assū	22 Sep
Nānak II	5 Visākh	18 Apr	4 Assū	18 Sep	3 Visākh	16 Apr
Nānak III	9 Jeṭh	23 May	3 Visākh	16 Apr	2 Assū	16 Sep
Nānak IV	25 Assū	9 Oct	2 Assū	16 Sep	2 Assū	16 Sep
Nānak V	19 Visākh	2 May	2 Assū	16 Sep	2 Hārḥ	16 Jun
Nānak VI	21 Hārḥ	5 Jul	28 Jeṭh	11 Jun	6 Chet	19 Mar
Nānak VII	19 Māgh	31 Jan	29 Phaggaṇ	12/11 Mar	6 Kattak	20 Oct
Nānak VIII	8 Sāvaṇ	23 Jul	6 Kattak	20 Oct	3 Visākh	16 Apr
Nānak IX	5 Visākh	18 Apr	3 Visākh	16 Apr	1 Magghar	24 Nov
Nānak X	23 Poh	5 Jan	11 Magghar	24 Nov	7 Kattak	21 Oct

Other Purabs (2006-07)

<b>Nānakshāhī</b>	<b>Gregorian</b>	<b>Description</b>
1 Cet	14 Mar	Nānakshāhī Sammat - Sikh New Year
2 Cet	15 Mar*	Holā Mohallā – Martial Arts Celebrations
1 Visākh	14 Apr	Vaisākhī – Inauguration of the <u>Khālsā</u> (The Ideal Person)
21 Jeṭh	4 Jun	Ghallughārā – 1984 Holocaust (Attack on Sikh People & Culture)
6 Sāvaṇ	21 Jul	Mīrī-Pīrī – Double-edged Spiritual & Political Sovereignty
17 Bhādom	1 Sep	Prakāsh – Gurū Granth’s Installation (Scriptural canon)
6 Kattak	20 Oct	Granth-Panth – Eternal Gurūship of Wisdom-Nation
7 Kattak	21 Oct*	Bandī Chor – Liberty & Freedom Celebrations
22 Kattak	5 Nov*	Prakāsh – Gurū Nānak’s Birth (Founder Prophet)
27 Magghar	8 Feb	VaḍḍGhallughārā – The Great Holocaust (Half of the Sikh population killed)

\* Traditional celebrations are based on lunar calendar; they change every year.

Sikh Calendar

Month	Begins On	Total Days
Cet / ਚੇਤ	14 March	31
Visākh / ਵਿਸਾਖ	14 April	31
Jeth / ਜੇਠ	15 May	31
Hārḥ / ਹਾੜ੍ਹ	15 June	31
Sāvaṇ / ਸਾਵਣ	16 July	31
Bhādom / ਭਾਦੋਂ	16 August	30
Assū / ਅੱਸੂ	15 September	30
Kattak / ਕੱਤਕ	15 October	30
Magghar / ਮੱਘਰ	14 November	30
Poh / ਪੋਹ	14 December	30
Māgh / ਮਾਘ	13 January	30
Phaggaṇ / ਫੱਗਣ	12 February	30 (31 in a leap year)