



CREATE YOUR OWN HOLIDAY!

Directions: Two Options

- 1.) Print this activity guide and complete steps 1 - 4 Below.
- 2.) If don't wish to print the activity guide, just use blank sheets of paper and either read the prompts from this activity guide, or write them down.
- 3.) Have fun! Be creative! Share the holiday with the Museum at **#MVCyourholiday**

Step 1– For younger children, this can be read by a parent or adult to the creative kid(s) doing the activity!

Can you think of some of your favorite holidays? They might be Fourth of July, *Día de los Muertos*, Labor Day, National Pizza Day, California Surfing Day, or a whole lot of other holidays! Now, can you think of some things that are part of your favorite holidays?

-Discuss some of these holidays with the child you're helping, and/or with other family members.

-Explain that holidays can be about individuals, groups, historical events, National days, religious or non-religious celebrations, activities (like eating pizza), and many other things!

Step 2- Let's think of one holiday in particular— New Year's Eve!

Now, let's go through a few things that make New Year's Eve a holiday:

I. Date: December 31st. New Year's Eve Happens on the last day of the year...every year! So, a holiday happens on the same date each year (note: there might be an exception to this due to leap year...you can figure that out if you want!).

II. Traditions— So, a "tradition" is something that is done or enjoyed on a holiday, and this might be passed on from year to year, or even generation-to-generation (such as grandparents-to-parents-to-you!). It is usually something that is happens on the special holiday, and not necessarily every other day of the year.

Examples:

*A tradition on New Year's Eve might be to watch fireworks, **something done with others!***

*Another tradition might be to stay up until midnight to **celebrate** the New Year!*

*Another tradition might be to bang pots and pans at midnight to "**ring in the New Year!**"*

*Another tradition might be **to eat a certain type of food**...like pizza, or a New Year's salad!*

*Another tradition might be **to play a game**...like, we always play baseball on New Year's Eve!*

*We might **spend time with friends and family** on this holiday (and others too), as a tradition.*

*We might **say certain things**, like "Happy New Year!" at midnight, as a tradition!*

*We might **sing certain songs**, or **play certain music**, such as Auld Lang Syne on New Year's!*

*...**There can be other traditions we have on New Year's Eve or other holidays!***

Step 3– Here is the part where you create your own holiday!

We’ve included some boxes below that have the things listed that make a holiday...or “categories” that you will fill out when creating your holiday.

Also, there will be some space for you to draw anything you like that shows what your holiday is all about!

I. What is Your Holiday? Hint: No Pressure! You can come up with a “warm up” name and change it after you complete the rest of the boxes below! Also, the name might have something to do with the individual, event, or other thing that your holiday is about!

Write the Name of Your Holiday Here: _____

Description of Holiday: In this space, write or draw what your holiday is and why it is celebrated! Have fun, and be creative!

II. Date of Your Holiday! You will need to decide what date of the year your holiday will happen on...just like New Year’s Eve is on December 31st, or July 4th is on, um, July 4th.

Write the Date of Your Holiday Here: (Month)_____ (Day of Month)_____

III. Your Holiday Traditions! You get to invent what will happen on your holiday and what people will do and stuff! Add words and art below to show what your holiday is all about and why it’s a special day!

On my holiday, we celebrate by....

What do people do on your holiday?

What food do people eat on your holiday?

Who do you spend time with?

Is there music? What kind? Is there singing? Write the lyrics to your own holiday song!

Is there anything that people say to each other during your holiday?

Step 4- Showcase Your Holiday! Show through drawing, words, gluing or taping things, or whatever you like, what your holiday is and what it looks like!

(Write the name of your holiday below)

My Holiday: _____

(Create your holiday below with drawing, words, coloring, and other art!)