Lesson 2 Teacher's Guide

Birthdays Around the World
by M. Lee

Fountas-Pinnell Level J

Informational Text

Selection Summary
This selection discusses birthday customs around the world: special birthday foods in China, India, and Ghana; the German origin of cakes with candles; birthday parties in general; and special birthdays, such as the ones for 15-year-old Mexican girls. The selection ends with a map highlighting the various countries mentioned.

Characteristics of the Text

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Informational text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Text Structure</td>
<td>Topic (birthday customs around the world) organized in heads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The first sentence in a section states the main idea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>Familiar birthday customs (e.g., birthday cake, presents) and not-so-familiar birthday customs (e.g., Ghanaians eating oto on their birthdays).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The world as a global village/celebrating diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Themes and Ideas</td>
<td>A birthday is a special day for many people around the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Birthday celebrations are similar/different around the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It is important to celebrate ways that people around the world are alike and different.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and Literary Features</td>
<td>Conversational tone that engages the reader from time to time through direct address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mainly third-person but with embedded second-person questions addressed to reader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentence Complexity</td>
<td>A mix of short, simple sentences and longer, more complex sentences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sentence types include statements, questions, and exclamations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commas after introductory clauses (e.g., In Mexico, . . .)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary</td>
<td>Familiar words related to birthday parties (e.g., presents, cake, ice cream)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other possibly unfamiliar words: noodles, coin, sweet potato, oto, porch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proper nouns for names of countries: China, India, Ghana, Germany, Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words</td>
<td>Multisyllabic words, some of which might not be familiar to English language learners: camera, remember, chocolate, potato, music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illustrations</td>
<td>Photographs complement text; map included, with labels for countries mentioned in text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book and Print Features</td>
<td>Nine pages, divided into five sections with substantive headings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Predictable placement of text and art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labels on photos that clarify text</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birthdays Around the World  by M. Lee

Build Background
Draw on children’s experience with birthday celebrations to build interest, using prompts such as these: Have you ever had a birthday party or been to one? Tell one thing that happened.

Front-Load Vocabulary  Some everyday words may be unfamiliar to English learners. Before reading, check understanding of the following words: birthday party, presents, coin, dresses, candles, ice cream, dance.

Introduce the Text
Guide students through the text, noting important ideas, and helping with unfamiliar language and vocabulary so they can read the text successfully. Call their attention to any important labels. Here are some suggestions:

Pages 2-3: Explain that this book tells how birthdays are celebrated in different places around the world. Suggested language: The heading on page 3 says: Happy Birthday! Which person in the photo on page 2 is celebrating a birthday? What can you tell from the photo about how she feels? What do you think she will remember about this special day? What do you remember best about a birthday you’ve had?

Pages 4–5: Use the photos and labels to identify the foods for children. Cultural Support: Point out the food name in italic print on page 5: oto. Explain that this is the name of a food from Ghana that is made from sweet potato and eggs. This heading says: Birthday Food. People in different countries eat different foods on their birthdays. Which of these foods have you eaten? Which would you like to try?

Pages 8–9: Draw attention to the photo. Look at the girl wearing the long white dress. Why do you think she is wearing a crown on her head? What does a crown tell people about the person wearing one?

Page 10: This map shows countries you will read about in this book. Let’s point to each one on the map: India, China, United States, Mexico, Sweden, Germany, Greece, Ghana.

Now turn back to the beginning of the book and read to find out how birthdays are celebrated in some countries around the world.

cousin – the son or daughter of your aunt or uncle, p. 4
crown – a head covering, p. 9
piano – a large musical instrument with keys, p. 7

porch – a room or area attached to the outside of a house, p. 7
remembered – thought about, p. 3
spend – to use time, p. 3

stuck – attached to something else, p. 7
visit – go to see a person or a place, p. 8
Read
As the children read, observe them carefully. Guide them as needed, using language that supports their problem-solving ability.

Remind children to use the Question strategy asking themselves questions about what they are reading.

Discuss and Revisit the Text

Personal Response
Invite children to share their personal responses to the book. Begin by asking what they liked best about the book, or what they found interesting.

Suggested language: Why do you think birthdays are special celebrations in many parts of the world?

Ways of Thinking
As you discuss the text, help children understand these points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thinking Within the Text</th>
<th>Thinking Beyond the Text</th>
<th>Thinking About the Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Everyone has a birthday, and many people celebrate birthdays all around the world.</td>
<td>• A birthday is a special day for people around the world.</td>
<td>• The author’s purpose is informing readers about birthday celebrations around the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• People eat different special foods on birthdays, such as cake, noodles, chocolate, and oto.</td>
<td>• Birthday celebrations around the world are alike in some ways and different in others.</td>
<td>• The author asks the reader questions, as if the reader and the author are talking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• People have parties, and some children have special birthdays at certain ages.</td>
<td>• We should celebrate the ways in which we are alike and the ways in which we are different.</td>
<td>• The author has included a map so that readers can locate the countries mentioned in the text.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Choices for Further Support
• **Fluency** Have children echo-read as you read the text on p. 10, sentence by sentence. Remind children to listen to how you read a sentence and to imitate you as they read it.

• **Comprehension** Based on your observations of the children’s reading and discussion, revisit parts of the text to clarify or extend comprehension. Remind children to go back to the text to support their ideas.

• **Phonics/Word Work** Provide practice as needed with words and word parts, using examples from the text. Remind children that when -s is added to a naming word, it means “more than one.” Have children read these words from the text and identify the ending that means “more than one”: presents, foods, eggs, games, boys, girls. Then have them practice forming plurals for these words from the text: cake, coin, day.
Writing about Reading

Critical Thinking
Have children complete the Critical Thinking questions on BLM 2.10.

Responding
Have children complete the activities at the back of the book. Use the instruction below as needed to reinforce or extend understanding of the comprehension skill.

Target Comprehension Skill
Compare and Contrast Remind children that one way to think about information in a book is to think about how two things in the book are alike and how they are different. Model the skill, using a “Think Aloud” like the one below:

Think Aloud
I can remember what I have learned in this book by thinking about how birthdays in different countries are alike and different. The book tells about birthday parties for girls in India and Mexico. One way they are alike is that girls in India and in Mexico wear special dresses. One way they are different is that, in Mexico, girls wear crowns, too. Another way they are different is that in India, girls give their friends chocolate.

Practice the Skill
Invite children to look at the photos on page 4 and on page 7. Then have them tell one way the photos are alike and one way they are different.

Writing Prompt: Thinking About the Text
Have children respond to the prompt on page 6. Remind them that when they think about informational text, they think about how the author presents the information and what words the author uses.

Assessment Prompts
• What is the selection mainly about?
• Which words on page 5 help you understand what oto is?
English Language Development

Reading Support Check regularly on children’s oral reading to determine accuracy, fluency, and comprehension. Or have children use the audio or online recordings.

Cultural Support Not all cultures celebrate birthdays. If any children come from such cultures, have them name occasions on which they do have special celebrations. Explain that in many but not all cultures, there is a celebration on the same date when a child was born.

Oral Language Development

Check children’s comprehension, using a dialogue that best matches their English proficiency. Speaker 1 is the teacher, Speaker 2 is the child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning/Early Intermediate</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Early Advanced/ Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 1: What is the book about?</td>
<td>Speaker 1: Name two special birthday foods you read about.</td>
<td>Speaker 1: What are some special birthday foods and activities?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 1: What do children in China eat for their birthdays?</td>
<td>Speaker 1: Tell two things that people might do at a birthday party.</td>
<td>Speaker 2: open presents and play games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 2: noodles</td>
<td>Speaker 2: a crown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 1: What does a Mexican girl wear on her head when she turns 15?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 2: a crown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Responding

Compare and Contrast
How is a birthday party for girls in India different than one in Mexico? How is it the same? Use a Venn diagram like this one to compare and contrast the details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Mexico</th>
<th>Both</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>give chocolates to friends</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Write About It

Text to Text Have you read other books about birthdays? Write a friendly letter telling someone about a birthday in a story.

Think About It

Read and answer the questions.

1. What special birthday foods do people around the world eat?
   - They eat long noodles and dumplings in China, chocolate in India, and 0to in Ghana.

2. How are those birthdays the same as or different from birthday celebrations in your family?
   - Answers will vary.

3. Why do many people take pictures during birthday celebrations?
   - Possible response: They want to remember the happy day.

Making Connections

Some people make a wish when they blow out the candles on their birthday cake. What would you wish for? Why?

Write your answer in your Reader’s Notebook.

Lesson 2: Birthdays Around the World
Birthdays Around the World

Thinking About the Text

Write a paragraph that answers the questions below.

Which of the birthday parties described in the book would you like to attend? What things would you do there? What foods would you eat? Use details from this book in your answer.

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
Think About It

Read and answer the questions.

1. What special birthday foods do people around the world eat?

2. How are these birthdays the same as or different from birthday celebrations in your family?

3. Why do many people take pictures during birthday celebrations?

Making Connections  Some people make a wish when they blow out the candles on their birthday cake. What would you wish for? Why?

Write your answer in your Reader’s Notebook.
Birthdays Around the World

LEVEL J

Everyone has a birthday.
A birthday is a good time to do something special.
Some people spend the day with family and friends.
Some people have a birthday party. They eat cake and open presents.
Some people use a camera to take pictures.
They want to remember their special day.
What do you do on your birthday?

People around the world eat special birthday foods.
In China, children eat long noodles.

Behavior Code Error
Read word correctly ✓ cat 0
Repeated word, sentence, or phrase @ cat 0
Omission cat 1
Substitution cut cat 1
Self-correction cut sc 0
Insertion the cat 1
Word told @ cat 1

Accuracy Rate
(# words read correctly/71 x 100)
% 100%

Self-Correction Rate
(# errors + # Self-Corrections)
1: 1

Comments: