

20. Festival Album



Make a 'Festival Album' with the help of your family and friends.

- Select any ten festivals for your album.
- Collect information about each of the festivals using these points :
 - * Name of the festival. Why the festival is known by that name.
If there is a story about the festival, you may write it in short.
 - * When does the festival occur –
 - (a) The date according to the Jan. - Dec. calendar this year.
 - (b) The date according to any other calendar every year.
 - * What do people do on that occasion ?
 - * What special dishes are prepared at home ?
 - * Do you invite other people to celebrate it with you ?
 - * Is it a holiday in school ?
 - * Do you send 'Greeting Cards' and messages on this occasion ?
What do you write in them ? Prepare a sample card.
- Try to get pictures or photographs suitable for the festival. You may also draw pictures related to the festival.
- Arrange your information and pictures/photographs in an artistic way on a big sheet of paper. Paste the photographs/pictures. Use colour pencils/pens to write the information. See that your handwriting is neat and tidy.
(See the 'Makar Sankrant' page given here. You may use other ideas for your album.)
- When all ten sheets are ready, pin or stitch them together. Use a blank sheet at the front and back, to make a 'cover' for your album.
- Write the name 'Festival Album' on the front cover.
Show your album to family and friends.

For the Teacher : Allow children to select for their album, the festivals they like. Encourage them to select different festivals. Give them enough time to prepare the album. Arrange a display or exhibition of the albums.

Makar Sankrant

Makar Sankrant usually occurs on 14 January every year.

This is the day when the sun starts Uttarayana - its six months long northward journey in the sky. On this day, the sun is supposed to move to the Makar or Capricorn sun-sign.

On this day, people in Maharashtra visit one another, give sesame sweets to younger people and say, 'Til-gul ghyaa, goda bolaa - eat sweet, speak sweet.' It's a **sweet festival**.



People make 'gulachi poli' and khichadi on this day.

On this day, women distribute fresh ears of grain, bits of sugarcane, vegetables, etc. in beautiful clay pots - It's a **harvest festival**.



Women give one another gifts - it's a **festival of gifts**.

People in Gujarat fly beautiful kites on this day - it's **Kite Festival**.



In Tamil Nadu, this is the time of Pongal - the **Sun Festival**.