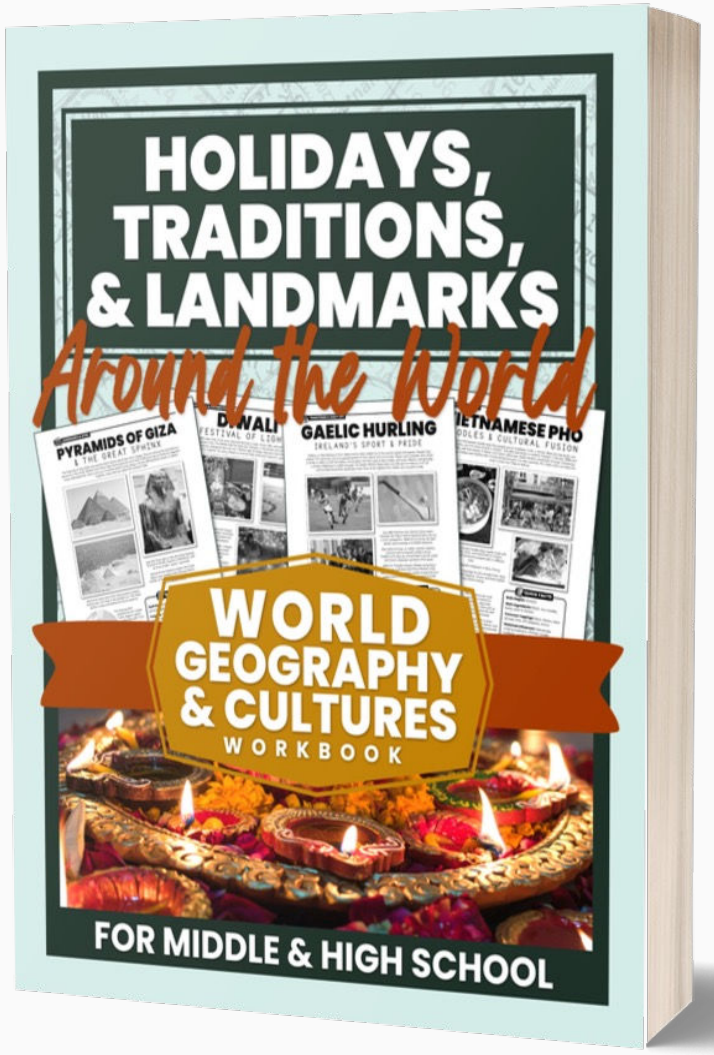
WORLD CULTURE workbook

Explore cultures around the world while building geography, map-reading, and critical thinking skills.

This Workbook Includes:

- **36 High Interest Cultural Topics** from around the world
- **Engaging 2-Page Spreads** for each cultural topic
- **Photos, Maps, Readings, & Critical Thinking Questions** for deeper learning
- **Mapping Activities, Review Games, & Extension Ideas** for extra support



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CULTURE & TRADITIONS
AROUND THE WORLD

LANDMARKS & SITES

PYRAMIDS OF GIZA
& THE GREAT SPHINX

The Pyramids of Giza (GEE-zuh) and the Great Sphinx stand near Cairo, Egypt. They are among the most famous structures in the world. Workers built these huge stone pyramids more than 4,500 years ago as tombs for Egyptian kings called pharaohs. Giza is only one of several pyramid sites along a 19-mile (30-kilometer) stretch of desert. Together, these sites are called the Pyramid Fields.





(top left) From right to left, the Great Pyramid, Pyramid of Khafre, Pyramid of Menkaure, with its three smaller "queen" pyramids.



(above) Some historians believe the Great Sphinx was modeled after Pharaoh Khafre, builder of the second pyramid at Giza, shown here in a seated statue.

(above) An aerial view of the Giza pyramid complex looking east, with Giza in the background. The Great Sphinx is obscured behind the center pyramid.



The Giza pyramid complex sits just outside Cairo, Egypt's capital, on the west side of the Nile River.

Today, the modern city has expanded to the edge of the site, where neighborhoods and roads stretch close to the ancient pyramids.

QUICK FACTS

Built By: Workers under the authority of ancient Egyptian rulers (c. 2600–2500 BCE)

Purpose: Tombs for pharaohs, designed to prepare them for the afterlife

Location: Giza, across the Nile River from Cairo, Egypt

Original Height of the Great Pyramid: About 481 feet (146 meters)

Annual Visitors: 4–5 million

HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS

DIWALI
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

wali (dih-WAH-lee) is one of the most important festivals in India. Hindu, Sikh, and Jain families in many other ntries celebrate it too. The holiday lasts five days each October or November and centers on one idea: light ercomes darkness, and good wins over evil. Families light oil lamps, decorate their homes, share meals, and spend time together. For many, Diwali is a time for fresh starts and hopes for a good year ahead.





e altar decorated with images nesha, two widely worshiped m. Offerings of sweets and ced during Diwali prayers.



n creates a rangoli, a design powder, or flower petals, e placed at entrances to sts and bring luck.

small clay lamps called bolize the victory of light arkness.



sia, especially India ies with large South ngapore, Myanmar, d Tobago.

QUICK FACTS

Celebrated By: Many people in India and Hindu, Sikh, and Jain communities worldwide

When Celebrated: Five days in October or November

Purpose: Celebrating renewal and prosperity

Main Traditions: Lighting lamps, creating rangoli, sharing sweets, gathering with family

Core Belief: Light overcomes darkness, fresh starts, prosperity

TRADITIONS & DAILY LIFE

GAELIC HURLING
IRELAND'S SPORT & PRIDE

Hurling is a fast field sport from Ireland and is often called one of the world's oldest field games. People have played it for centuries, and it is a proud symbol of Irish culture and community. Players use a wooden stick called a hurley to strike a small ball called a sliotar down the field, pass to teammates, and score. Women and girls play a closely related game called camogie. The Gaelic Athletic Association runs the sport in Ireland, and Irish communities around the world play it too. Even at the highest level, hurlers are not paid to play.







(top left) A hurling club championship match between the Killyon and Longwood teams during a local competition. Matches are known for their speed, quick passing, and skilled stickwork.

(top right) A hurley, or camán, beside a leather-covered cork hurling ball called a sliotar. Traditional hurleys are carved from local ash wood and remain important symbols of the sport.

(left) U.S. President Barack Obama accepting a hurley as a gift from Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny in 2011. The sport is widely recognized as a central part of Irish heritage and national pride.



Ireland is an island nation in northwestern Europe where hurling developed as part of Gaelic culture and social life.

Today, the sport remains especially popular in many Irish counties and is also played by Irish communities around the world.

QUICK FACTS

Country: Ireland

Origins: Ancient Gaelic Ireland

Main Equipment: Hurley stick and sliotar ball

Governing Organization: Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA)

Related Sport: Camogie (women's version of the sport)

Most Popular In: Kilkenny, Cork, Tipperary, and Galway

FOOD & OBJECTS

VIETNAMESE PHO
NOODLES & CULTURAL FUSION

Pho (fuh) is a Vietnamese noodle soup that people eat for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Most pho has broth, rice noodles, herbs, and thin slices of beef or chicken. The dish took shape in northern Vietnam in the late 1800s and early 1900s, with Vietnamese, Chinese, and French influences. Street vendors carried pho through Vietnamese cities. Later, Vietnamese families who moved abroad brought it to new countries. Pho restaurants now serve the soup in cities from Paris to Sydney.





ove) Pho is a Vietnamese noodle soup usually made with broth, rice noodles, herbs, and sliced beef or chicken. fferent regions and restaurants prepare pho in different ways.



top right) A bustling pho restaurant in Paris, France.

om right) Common toppings for pho include limes, bean ts, basil leaves, chili peppers, onions, and herbs added to the soup before eating.



Pho traditions are most closely connected to Vietnam, especially northern cities such as Hanoi where the dish likely developed.

Today, pho is eaten throughout Vietnam and has spread internationally through migration, restaurants, and global food culture.

QUICK FACTS

Main Region: Vietnam

Main Ingredients: Broth, rice noodles, herbs, beef or chicken

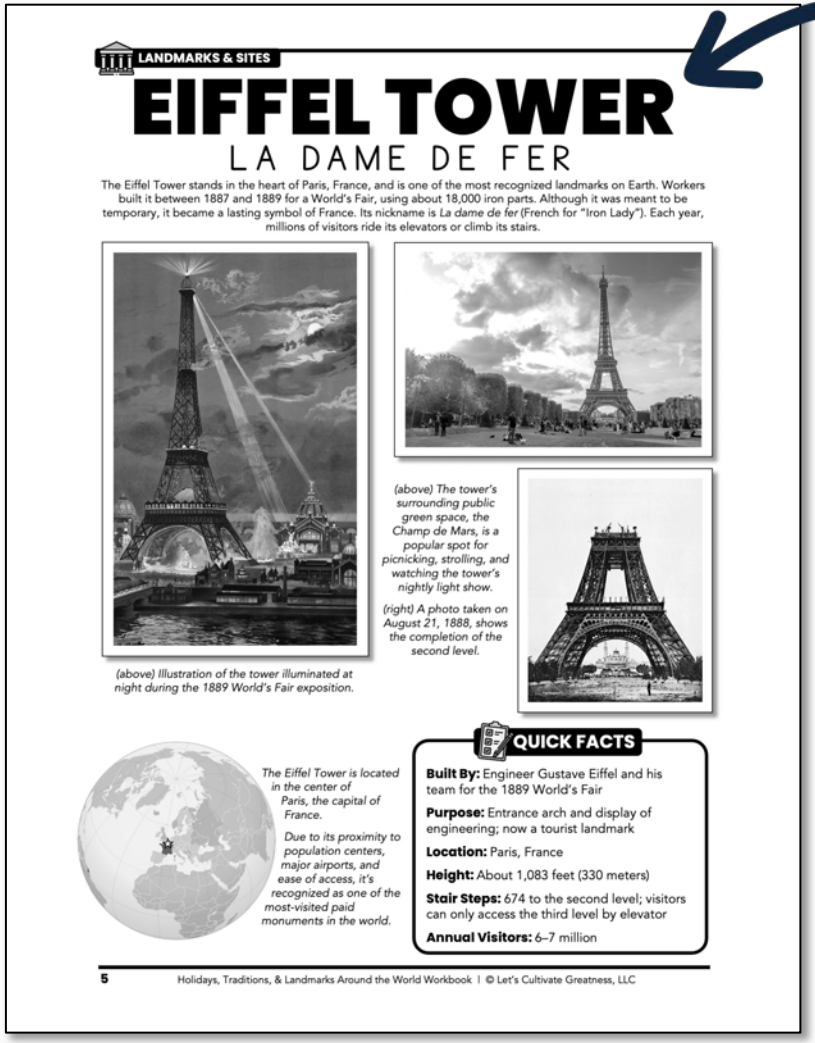
Common Toppings: Basil, cilantro, bean sprouts, lime, chili peppers, onions

Historical Influences: Vietnamese cooking traditions, Chinese noodle traditions, and French culinary influence

Modern Popularity: Restaurants throughout Vietnam, North America, Europe, and Australia

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INSIDE EACH *spotlight*



LANDMARKS & SITES

EIFFEL TOWER

LA DAME DE FER

The Eiffel Tower stands in the heart of Paris, France, and is one of the most recognized landmarks on Earth. Workers built it between 1887 and 1889 for a World's Fair, using about 18,000 iron parts. Although it was meant to be temporary, it became a lasting symbol of France. Its nickname is *La dame de fer* (French for "Iron Lady"). Each year, millions of visitors ride its elevators or climb its stairs.

(above) Illustration of the tower illuminated at night during the 1889 World's Fair exposition.

(above) The tower's surrounding public green space, the Champ de Mars, is a popular spot for picnicking, strolling, and watching the tower's nightly light show.

(right) A photo taken on August 21, 1888, shows the completion of the second level.

The Eiffel Tower is located in the center of Paris, the capital of France.

Due to its proximity to population centers, major airports, and ease of access, it's recognized as one of the most-visited paid monuments in the world.

QUICK FACTS

Built By: Engineer Gustave Eiffel and his team for the 1889 World's Fair

Purpose: Entrance arch and display of engineering; now a tourist landmark

Location: Paris, France

Height: About 1,083 feet (330 meters)

Stair Steps: 674 to the second level; visitors can only access the third level by elevator

Annual Visitors: 6–7 million

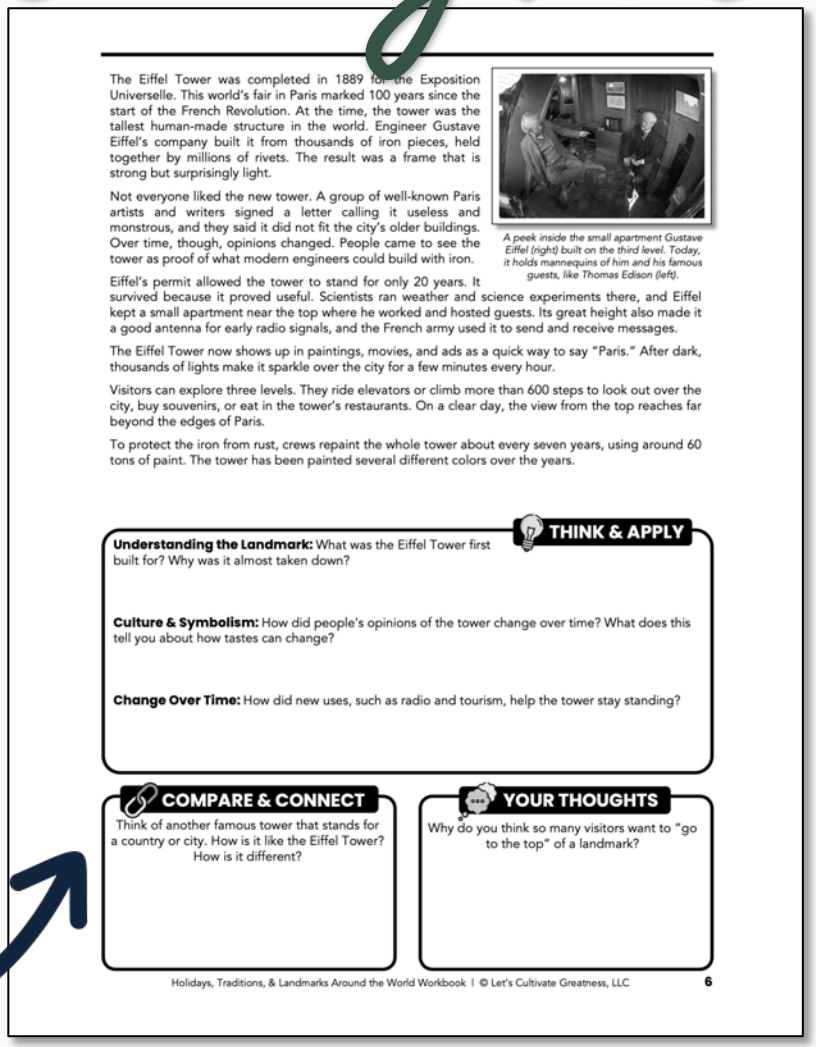
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Concise intro to familiarize yourself with the cultural item

Image gallery to see different important and awe-inspiring sides of the cultural item

Map, Quick Facts, Short Reading to learn the item's history, meaning, and role it plays in culture today

Comprehension & Critical Thinking Questions to apply learning across spotlights and connect to the world and self



The Eiffel Tower was completed in 1889 for the Exposition Universelle. This world's fair in Paris marked 100 years since the start of the French Revolution. At the time, the tower was the tallest human-made structure in the world. Engineer Gustave Eiffel's company built it from thousands of iron pieces, held together by millions of rivets. The result was a frame that is strong but surprisingly light.

A peek inside the small apartment Gustave Eiffel (right) built on the third level. Today, it holds mannequins of him and his famous guests, like Thomas Edison (left).

Not everyone liked the new tower. A group of well-known Paris artists and writers signed a letter calling it useless and monstrous, and they said it did not fit the city's older buildings. Over time, though, opinions changed. People came to see the tower as proof of what modern engineers could build with iron.

Eiffel's permit allowed the tower to stand for only 20 years. It survived because it proved useful. Scientists ran weather and science experiments there, and Eiffel kept a small apartment near the top where he worked and hosted guests. Its great height also made it a good antenna for early radio signals, and the French army used it to send and receive messages.

The Eiffel Tower now shows up in paintings, movies, and ads as a quick way to say "Paris." After dark, thousands of lights make it sparkle over the city for a few minutes every hour.

Visitors can explore three levels. They ride elevators or climb more than 600 steps to look out over the city, buy souvenirs, or eat in the tower's restaurants. On a clear day, the view from the top reaches far beyond the edges of Paris.

To protect the iron from rust, crews repaint the whole tower about every seven years, using around 60 tons of paint. The tower has been painted several different colors over the years.

THINK & APPLY

Understanding the Landmark: What was the Eiffel Tower first built for? Why was it almost taken down?

Culture & Symbolism: How did people's opinions of the tower change over time? What does this tell you about how tastes can change?

Change Over Time: How did new uses, such as radio and tourism, help the tower stay standing?

COMPARE & CONNECT

Think of another famous tower that stands for a country or city. How is it like the Eiffel Tower? How is it different?

YOUR THOUGHTS

Why do you think so many visitors want to "go to the top" of a landmark?

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