

2.4 IS FIRE CULTURE?

Aim

To better understand the role of fire in diverse cultures.

Description

Fire holds significant cultural meaning across diverse communities. It serves as a central element in various events and festivities, taking on different forms like fireworks, bonfires, torches, and more. As each culture utilises fire in distinct ways, we encourage you to explore the rich tapestry of fires employed in community celebrations and traditions worldwide. Immerse yourself in the fascinating diversity of cultural fires and their unique roles in different cultures' events and festivities.

Linked units

- Unit 2: History of fire

Type of results

- A video
- A classroom debate

Material you may need

- Computer with internet and/or access to a library
- Smartphone or camera
- Projector

Scope of impact

- Classroom
- Educational centre
- Household
- Community

Professions related to the topic

- Painter
- Anthropologist
- Historian

Activity: getting to know fire as part of the cultures of the world

In this challenge you will learn about the role of fire in different cultures.

Tasks

1. In the classroom, brainstorm about different roles that you can think of fire in different cultures. (group)
2. Divide the class into subgroups and focus on the non-native language(s) you learn in school. Each group has to find films, songs, poems or other artistic forms of expression in which fire has a strong apparition. Then, think about which roles fire take in them: is it a menace? A symbol for death and decay? Or the symbol of something beautiful? powerful? (group)
3. Share the results jointly. Which role of fire is more frequent? Which one surprised you the most? (group)
4. Make an artistic expression of your own in which fire is involved. (group)