



The **International Cultures Committee** invites every Holmes student in grades K – 5 to participate in an optional, at-home (or at school during free time) creative project that explores, in a personal way, the concept of culture.

Students may participate by selecting a topic from the preselected lists below. We encourage students to be creative as it relates to their submissions and how they express their thoughts. Words/stories, illustrations, songs, poems, raps, collages, photos, etc. are all welcome. Submissions also may be made in any language so long as the writing is done by the student.

To celebrate the students' efforts, a 45-minute after-school recognition ceremony for the participants, their parents and the Holmes community will be held the evening of Thursday, March 3rd at Holmes School. Their work also will be showcased at school and published in a Holmes School e-book for all to see.

Please encourage your child to participate, help guide them on this journey of self-discovery, and experience the pride they'll feel sharing their unique stories and traditions with the greater Holmes community!

The initiative will run from January 11th through February 9th

FOR GRADES K-2:

1. Discuss your name, its origin and what it means. Why did your parents choose this name for you? How / why does your name make you feel unique and or special?
2. America is home to many cultures from many countries. Where are your parents, grandparents, or great grandparents from? Can you trace your family roots? What customs (holidays, dress, games, sports, etc.) are unique to you and your family?
3. When you gather with your family for a holiday, what special foods do you eat that might be different than what your friends eat? Describe the holiday and the food on the table. How does the food you eat make you feel special and unique?

FOR GRADES 3-5

1. Research a game, played by children in another culture or country, and then teach it to your friends. Describe the game, tell us where in the world this game is played and tell us about your experience teaching it to, and playing it with, your friends.
2. When you gather with your family for a holiday, what special traditions do you share? Describe one of these special traditions and tell us what makes it unique and special.
3. Do you know someone from another country? What makes your friendship special? What games do you play together? What have you learned from your friend and what has your friend learned from you.

*Please submit all entries to your classroom teacher prior to the **February 9th** deadline.*

All submissions should be on 8 ½ x 11 size paper.

Students may use as many pages as they wish to express their ideas. For scanning purposes, single-sided entries are preferred.