

New Year Around the World

New Year's Eve is on 31st of December for lots of people.

There are lots of things that you might do on New Year's Eve.

You might... ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆



stay up past
midnight.



watch a firework
display.

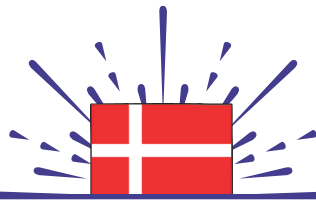


sing a song about
the new year.

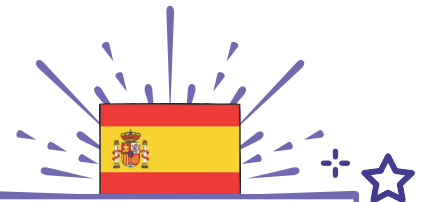
People around the world might do things that are different from the things that you do.



People in Brazil
eat lentils.



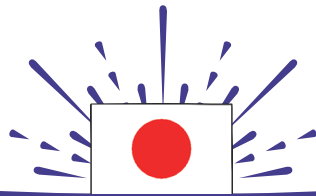
People in Denmark
smash plates.



People in Spain
eat grapes.



People in
Romania dress
up as bears.



People in Japan
ring bells.



People in New York,
USA watch a glowing
ball be lowered down
a big flagpole.

Questions

1. What do people in Brazil eat? Tick one.

- ☐ grapes
- ☐ lentils
- ☐ bears

2. What do people in Denmark smash? Tick one.

- ☐ fireworks
- ☐ bells
- ☐ plates

3. What do people dress up as in Romania? Tick one.

- ☐ bears
- ☐ bells
- ☐ fireworks

4. What do people in the USA do? Tick one.

- ☐ sing a song about the new year
- ☐ watch a firework display
- ☐ watch a glowing ball be lowered down a big flagpole

5. Who rings bells? Tick one.

- ☐ people in Brazil
- ☐ people in Spain
- ☐ people in Japan

Answers

1. What do people in Brazil eat? Tick one.

- ☐ grapes
- ☒ **lentils**
- ☐ bears

2. What do people in Denmark smash? Tick one.

- ☐ fireworks
- ☐ bells
- ☒ **plates**

3. What do people dress up as in Romania? Tick one.

- ☒ **bears**
- ☐ bells
- ☐ fireworks

4. What do people in the USA do? Tick one.

- ☐ sing a song about the new year
- ☐ watch a firework display
- ☒ **watch a glowing ball be lowered down a big flagpole**

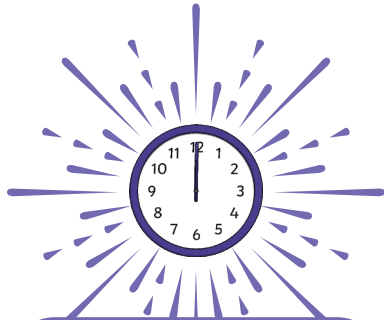
5. Who rings bells? Tick one.

- ☐ people in Brazil
- ☐ people in Spain
- ☒ **people in Japan**

New Year Around the World

New Year's Eve is on 31st of December for lots of people. Some people mark New Year's Eve on a different date. This is because they use a different kind of calendar.

There are lots of special things that you might do on New Year's Eve. **You might...**



stay up past midnight.



watch a firework display.



sing a song about the new year.

Big Firework Displays



There are big firework displays around the world as the clock in each country hits midnight. The fireworks are often set off near a busy city. Lots of people can go and watch. The fireworks in Brazil are set off from boats near a busy beach!



Traditions

People smash plates on New Year's Eve in Denmark. This is because they think that it will bring them good luck in the year to come. People in New York, USA watch a glowing ball be lowered down a big flagpole to signal the start of a new year. Bells ring out for the new year in Japan.

Special Foods

Lots of people eat grapes on New Year's Eve in Spain. They eat one grape for every time the clock strikes at midnight. They think that this will bring them 12 lucky months in the year to come.

Questions

1. When is New Year's Eve for lots of people? Tick one.

- ☐ 31st of October
- ☐ 31st of December
- ☐ 31st of March

2. Draw **three** lines and match each country to what happens there.

Denmark

Spain

Brazil

People eat grapes.

Fireworks are set off from boats.

People smash plates.

3. Which of these is **not** true? Tick one.

- ☐ There are lots of firework displays around the world.
- ☐ Fireworks are often set off near busy cities.
- ☐ No one likes to come and watch the fireworks.

4. Fill in the missing word.

Some people mark New Year's Eve on a different _____.

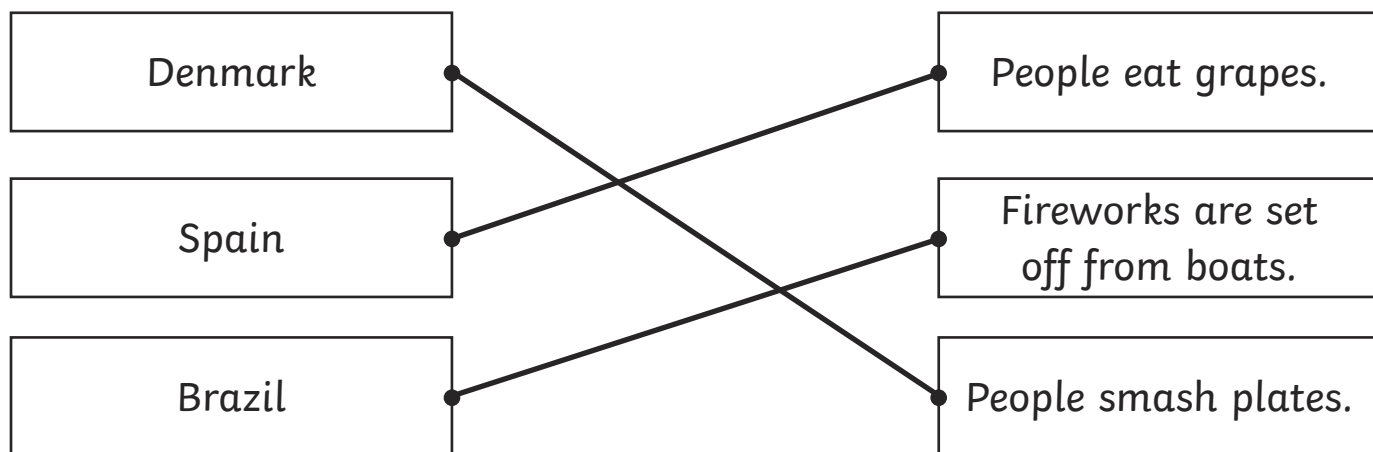
5. Find and copy one word that is used to describe the things that you might do on New Year's Eve.

Answers

1. When is New Year's Eve for lots of people? Tick one.

- ☐ 31st of October
- ☒ **31st of December**
- ☐ 31st of March

2. Draw **three** lines and match each country to what happens there.



3. Which of these is **not** true? Tick one.

- ☐ There are lots of firework displays around the world.
- ☐ Fireworks are often set off near busy cities.
- ☒ **No one likes to come and watch the fireworks.**

4. Fill in the missing word.

Some people mark New Year's Eve on a different **date**.

5. Find and copy one word that is used to describe the things that you might do on New Year's Eve.

special

New Year Celebrations Around the World

New Year's Eve is on 31st of December and New Year's Day is on 1st of January for many people.

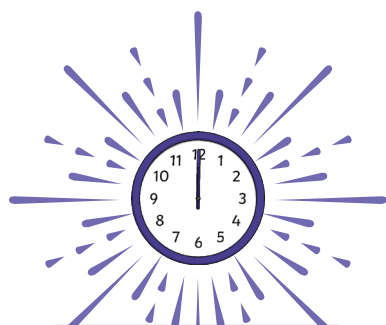
Some people celebrate the new year on a different date because they use a different kind of calendar. This is why the date of the Chinese New Year is different each year.

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Traditions



Each country around the world has special things that they do to mark the new year. These things are called traditions. In the UK, you might...



stay up past midnight.



watch a firework display.



sing a song about the new year.

.....



Firework Displays

There are many huge firework displays around the world as the clock strikes midnight in each country. The fireworks are sometimes set off near the country's capital city, just like they are in London. Lots of people can go and watch. The fireworks in Brazil are set off from boats near a popular beach!

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New Year Rituals



People go outside and smash plates on New Year's Eve in Denmark. They will smash a plate on their friend's doorstep to bring them good luck in the year to come.

People in New York, USA watch a glowing ball be lowered down a big flagpole to signal the start of a new year. This is known as the Times Square Ball Drop.

In Japan, bells are rung 108 times in temples on New Year's Eve. These ring out across the country to welcome in the new year.



Special Foods

- ✦ There are many different kinds of food that can be found around the world on New Year's Eve. Many people in Brazil eat lentils while many people in the Netherlands eat oliebollen. Oliebollen are fried dumplings with currants in them.

Lots of people eat grapes on New Year's Eve in Spain. Many Spanish people eat one grape for every time the clock strikes midnight because they think that this will bring them 12 lucky months in the year to come.



Questions

1. Why do people in Denmark smash plates on New Year's Eve? Tick one.

- ☐ because they do it near a popular beach
- ☐ to bring them good luck in the year to come
- ☐ so that lots of people can come to watch

2. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

New Year's Eve
is on...

1st of January
for many people.

New Year's Day
is on...

is different each year.

The date of the
Chinese New Year...

31st of December for
many people.

3. Fill in the missing word.

Some people celebrate the new year on a different date because they use a different kind of _____.

4. What are oliebollen?

5. Look at the section called **Firework Displays**

Find and copy one word that means 'lots of people like it'.

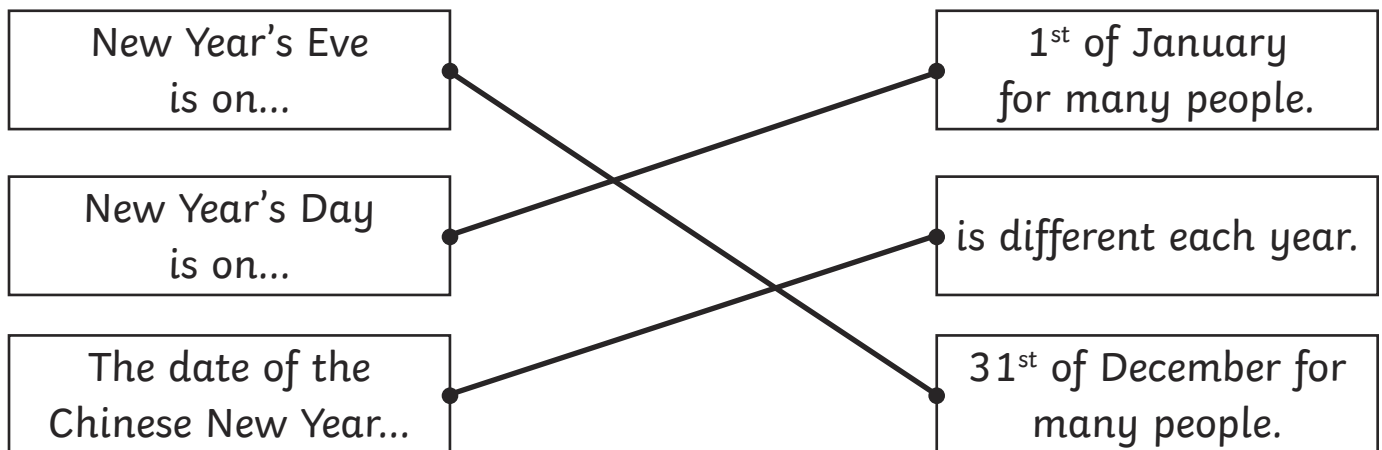
6. Which tradition from this text would you most like to try? Explain why.

Answers

1. Why do people in Denmark smash plates on New Year's Eve? Tick one.

- ☐ because they do it near a popular beach
☒ **to bring them good luck in the year to come**
☐ so that lots of people can come to watch

2. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.



3. Fill in the missing word.

Some people celebrate the new year on a different date because they use a different kind of **calendar**.

4. What are oliebollen?

Oliebollen are fried dumplings with currants in them.

5. Look at the section called **Firework Displays**

Find and copy one word that means 'lots of people like it'.

popular

6. Which tradition from this text would you most like to try? Explain why.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that I would most like to try eating grapes in Spain because I love fruit and eating 12 grapes would be really tasty.