Holiday History Clues

Use words from old messages to explore how two holidays began.

SS24.1.12 "Utilize primary sources to examine the significance of individuals, cultures, celebrations, and historical events within the community and state. 12a Summarize historical events that have shaped the community and state..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 CIRCLE IT

a | Halloween | Juneteenth | Memorial

b | Memorial | Halloween | Juneteenth

2 SOURCE WORDS

1865	
1868	

ANSWER KEY

Holiday History Clues

GRADE 1 · SS24.1.12

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read the two excerpts aloud without naming the holidays first. Students use these primary sources to connect each holiday to its origin, then record one word that explains the connection.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 · CIRCLE IT

SAY "A primary source is a message made at the time something happened. Listen to each old message. Circle the word that answers the question."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	A message read in Texas in 1865 said, 'all slaves are free.' I will read the choices: Halloween, Juneteenth, Memorial. Which holiday began to remember this news in Texas?	**Juneteenth**
b	An order written in 1868 spoke of 'strewing with flowers ... the graves of comrades.' Comrades were people who served together as soldiers. I will read the choices: Memorial, Halloween, Juneteenth. Which word starts the name of the holiday that grew from this day of remembering soldiers who died?	**Memorial**

PART 2 · SOURCE WORDS

SAY "Listen to the two old messages again. What one word from each message helps explain why people began to mark that day? Write one word beside each year, or tell me your word so I can help you write it."

- Box 1 (beside 1865): **free**
- Box 2 (beside 1868): **flowers**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Circle Juneteenth, then Memorial. For 1865, accept free or freedom. For 1868, accept flowers or a word about honoring soldiers who died. Note any writing support separately.