EASTER AROUND THE WORLD

Watch the video and do the exercises.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16JhAcfyl1U

1. Match the titles with the paragraphs and with the countries:

a. Egg-rolling b. Smashing clay pots c. Burning of Judas d. Explosion of the Cart

c. Easter Monday sprinkling d. Easter witches e. Egg fights

People play it at the White House every Easter. It is a race, where children push an egg through the grass with a long-handled spoon. The winner is the egg which rolls the furthest without cracking.

According to the ancient island's tradition, on Holy Saturday Corfu residents decorate their windows and balconies with clay pots. Then, they throw them from the balconies, smashing them into pieces on the streets below. Many people gather around to watch.

The tradition is common in several nations. The custom involves making an effigy (ομοίωμα) of Apostle Judas, who betrayed Jesus. People burn the effigy or explode it from within with fireworks.

Young children dress up as Easter witches. They put kerchiefs on their heads and paint big freckles and rosy cheeks on their faces. They go door-to-door, wishing people a happy Easter and getting sweets in return (similar to the American tradition of trick-or-treating on Halloween).

Hungary

Sweden & Finland

Washington D.C. (USA)

Greece

Latin America & Greece

Italy

Bulgaria

On Easter Monday, men sprinkle women with perfumed water. Of course, the water symbolizes purification, and it was believed to be beneficial for fertility in ancient times.

The **Scoppio del Carro** is a tradition of Florence. On Easter Sunday, a cart, full of fireworks and other pyrotechnics, is lit and provides a historic spectacle of the city.

People tap their eggs against the eggs of others, and the person who ends up with the last unbroken egg the luckiest. The winning egg is kept until next Easter as a sign of prosperity.

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2. Find the words:

Greece:

People who live permanently in a city or country.

Washington D.C. (USA):

A competition between runners, cars, horses e.t.c. to see which is the fastest.

Latin America and Greece:

A tradition of a society or place.

Hungary:

The ability to produce children.

Bulgaria:

Good fortune, luck.

Italy:

A public show that is exciting to watch.

Sweden and Finland:

Piece of cloth people wear around the neck or on the head.

3. Think and discuss:

What do you do in your country at Easter?

Do you find any similarities across traditions? Why do you think that is?

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Information on the customs from these websites:

https://www.topendsports.com/sport/unusual/egg-rolling.htm

https://hungarytoday.hu/easter-customs-in-hungary/

https://greece.greekreporter.com/2019/04/27/corfu-celebrates-resurrection-with-traditional-pot-smashing-video/

https://www.pri.org/stories/2018-04-07/greek-island-celebrates-easter-throwing-pots-water-out-windows

http://realscandinavia.com/in-sweden-easter-is-a-time-for-witches/

http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1889922_1890008_1889937,00.html

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scoppio_del_carro

https://www.themayor.eu/mt/the-eastern-egg-fight-in-bulgaria

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