# SPRING FESTIVALS

After a long, dark winter, everyone feels happy when it's spring. So, many people around the world plan festivals to celebrate the beginning of this season.

**Festival of Las Mayas: Spain**

Every year on May 2nd, there is a festival in the town of Colmenar Viejo. "Las Mayas" is an ancient festival. Local families make **altars** with colorful flowers. On each altar, a girl between the ages of 7 and 11 years old sits in a beautiful dress for two hours. Bands play music and crowds of people walk past.

**The Cherry Blossom Festival: Japan**

Cherry blossoms are Japan's national flower, so Japanese people celebrate them with a festival in the spring. In April, people come to look at the beautiful, pink flowers. In the afternoons and evenings, they sit under the trees with friends and enjoy food, drinks, and music.



**Holi: India and Nepal**

Around the middle of March, people in India and Nepal celebrate the **arrival** of spring. The festival lasts for one night and one day. People sing and dance around fires at night. Then, the next day, hundreds of people throw different-colored powders and water at each other.



Read the article. Which festival is in ...

March? _____

April? _____

May? _____

Match the words from the article to their definition.

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** ancient _____ | **a.** a lot of different colors |
| **2.** colorful _____ | **b.** very old |
| **3.** beautiful _____ | **c.** large groups of people |
| **4.** crowds _____ | **d.** nice to look at |

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| | Las Mayas | Cherry Blossom | Holi |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1.** It's in the spring. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| **2.** It's always on the same date. | | | |
| **3.** It's more than one day. | | | |
| **4.** Flowers are very important. | | | |
| **5.** The festival has many colors. | | | |
| **6.** There are large crowds. | | | |
| **7.** There is music at the festival. | | | |
| **8.** It is in one country. | | | |

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