Language Through the Arts

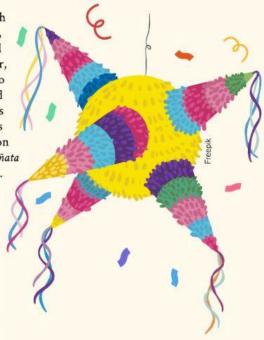


Social Studies

Have you ever played with a piñata?

The History of Piñatas

A piñata is a container that is decorated and filled with sweets, toys, or fruit. It is often in the shape of a star, animal, or popular character. The piñata has become a symbol of Mexico and many countries in Latin America. However, it actually has Chinese origins: the explorer Marco Polo brought the Chinese tradition to Europe and a bishop named Diego Soria brought the tradition to America. Towards the end of the 1500s, Diego Soria gave Christian masses during the eight days before Christmas, with the intention of spreading the religion to the natives of Mexico. The piñata was a part of this religious mass, often filled with fruits. People would try to break it with a wooden stick, because they were considered free of sin if they were able to break it open. The piñatas were in the shape of a star back then. Piñatas became very popular shortly after that. In the UK, piñatas often take the form of a donkey that is filled with sweets. Some believe this represents a cruel image and that piñatas should take other forms different from animals. In modern times, piñatas are an important part of many children's parties in Latin America.



Source: British Council (2017). The history of piñatas. Retrieved from https://bit.ly/2QnZFZ0

	you could m		own piñata. you choose?
vviidesii	iape and cor	ors would	you choose:

	hese incorrect sentences to make them correct rding to the reading.
• Pií	ñatas first appeared in Latin America.
• Th	e Jewish faith was the first to use piñatas.
• Pii	ñatas are often filled with money.
• In	the US, piñatas are often shaped like donkeys.
	ow piñatas are an important part of parties China.