

DISNEY Y.E.S. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION



Disney Y.E.S. programs are accredited by Northwest Association of Accredited Schools.

“MILLENNIUM CULTURES”

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Grade Levels:
4th-9th

Program Length:
3 hours

This program is aligned with National Standards.

Meeting Location:

(Morning) Outside *Epcot*® Main Entrance near the Group Sales Ticketing Window.

OBJECTIVE

The eleven nations represented in World Showcase at *Epcot*® reveal unique stories of people and places of days long ago, and they serve as the backdrop for students' exploration of the world's global community. Students will discuss and explore the effects and methods of communication, impacts of technology, commerce, and human behavior on culture and be able to apply that knowledge back at home and in the class-room to overcome cultural filters that often create challenges rather than cultivate cross-cultural understanding.

KEY LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Communication

Every culture has a distinct way of life and each culture has common bonds that link its people together. One of the strongest cultural bonds is the ability to communicate.

- Students will define culture.
- Students will discover that communication is key to learning about other cultures.

Understanding Why

Club Cool sets the stage for students to learn how an individual's background and experiences form a cultural filter that affects the perception and receptivity of the ideas, and way of life of people who are or who appear to be different.

Cultural Assimilation and More!

Looking out over *World Showcase* lagoon, students make their first acquaintance with the beauty, splendor, and richness of the cultures of World Showcase.

- Students discover cultures are not static; they live and change due to internal and external pressures.
- The distinctive Showcases around the *World Showcase* Lagoon form the backdrop for students' examination of assimilation, accommodation, and displacement of cultures.

Cultural Construction and Diversity

Through the Gate of the Golden Sun, students enter China for a hands-on exploration of two “unique” cultures.

- Students will discover how available resources can influence the development of culture.
- Students will gain further insights into how individual perception can influence the understanding of a culture.
- Students will be introduced to another culture through a meet and greet with a *World Showcase* Representative.
- Students will have the opportunity to ask questions and gain further insight into a culture that may be perceived as different.

Cultural Barriers and Gateways

The Silk Road spread elements of Chinese culture to Europe and at the same time allowed some ideas from Europe to spread to China. Cultural diffusion as exemplified by the Silk Road continues today through globalization.

- Students discover that many traditions believed to be unique have roots in other cultures.
- Students will identify barriers to cultural diffusion.
- Students will discover the impact of technology in the breaking down and building up of cultural barriers.

Wrap Up!

The host showcase, *The American Adventure*, provides students with the opportunity to experience the trials and triumphs of a culturally diverse nation.

- Students will discover that the strength of the United States comes from the diversity of the people who call it home.
- Students will articulate the common bonds of culture as discovered throughout the day's experience.
- Students learn the role that they can play in breaking down cultural barriers.

All programs subject to availability. Program content, times, attractions, and locations subject to change due to inclement weather, availability, or group dynamics.



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