

Program Name: Delaware Area Career Center ABLE/ESOL

Staff Responsible for Lesson: Sara Ledford

Title: Valentine's Day

Date(s) Used	February, 2011
Civics Category	II. Civic Participation
Civics Objective	8. Community Resources- Diversity
Time Frame to Complete Lesson	About 90 minutes
EFL(s)	Levels 3, 4, and 5.
Standard(s)	Read with Understanding, Convey Ideas in Writing, Listen and Speak.
Benchmark(s)	R 3-R5, W3-W5, L3-L5, S3-S5
Materials	Teacher-Written Story Question and Answer Sheet with Word Study at Bottom.
Activities	Read story together Write answers to 4 questions. Discuss with Partner Share with class. Complete Word Study at bottom Check Word Study as a class.
Assessment/ Evidence	Discussion comments. Answers on paper.

Reflection	This was a fun lesson. The students enjoyed sharing how Valentine's Day is celebrated in their countries.
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## Valentine's Day in America

On February 14<sup>th</sup> Americans celebrate Valentine's Day. Although it is not a national holiday, many people observe this day by gifting those they love. School children have parties with Valentine cards and red or pink candies. Adults often go out for a special dinner with flowers and candy during this time too.

Department stores display red clothing and decorate with hearts and lace. Shelves of valentine cards with messages of love and bags of heart-shaped candies begin to appear in variety stores shortly after Christmas.

Valentine's Day is the second most popular holiday of the year to exchange cards. These cards often have poems on them. These poems can be sweet or silly. One popular poem says:

*Roses are red,  
Violets are blue,  
Sugar is sweet,  
And so are you.*

Legend tells us that there was a man named St. Valentine who secretly performed marriage ceremonies for young couples. These marriages were kept secret because the Roman Emperor forbid anyone to be married at this time.

Do you think Valentine's Day began with a kindly saint who helped young people, or do you think Valentine's Day is a great commercial idea for buying and selling candy and cards? No one really knows for sure. One thing is certain—Valentine's Day will warm a cold winter month with thoughts of love.

*Happy Valentine's Day!*



## LISTENING – SPEAKING – READING – WRITING

Read the questions.

Write the answers.

Discuss your answers with a partner.

Share your ideas with the class.

### QUESTIONS:

1. Do you celebrate Valentine's Day or a similar holiday in your country?
2. Now that you are in the United States, do your children exchange Valentines at school? Do they enjoy this time in February? Why?
3. Do you think Valentine's Day is a good idea? Why or why not?
4. Why do some people think Valentine's Day is too commercialized?

## WORD STUDY

Look at the word on the left.

Find the word or phrase on the right that means the same or almost the same.

Put the numeral next to the word on the left.

\_\_\_\_\_ commercial  
\_\_\_\_\_ variety  
\_\_\_\_\_ perform  
\_\_\_\_\_ popular  
\_\_\_\_\_ forbid  
\_\_\_\_\_ legend  
\_\_\_\_\_ observe

1. not permitted
2. story
3. to celebrate
4. for profit
5. to do
6. liked by many
7. different