

Holiday Express

A Holidays Around the World Unit



Come Visit:
Sweden
Kenya
Mexico
Israel
Germany



Holidays Around the World

All Aboard the Holiday Express!

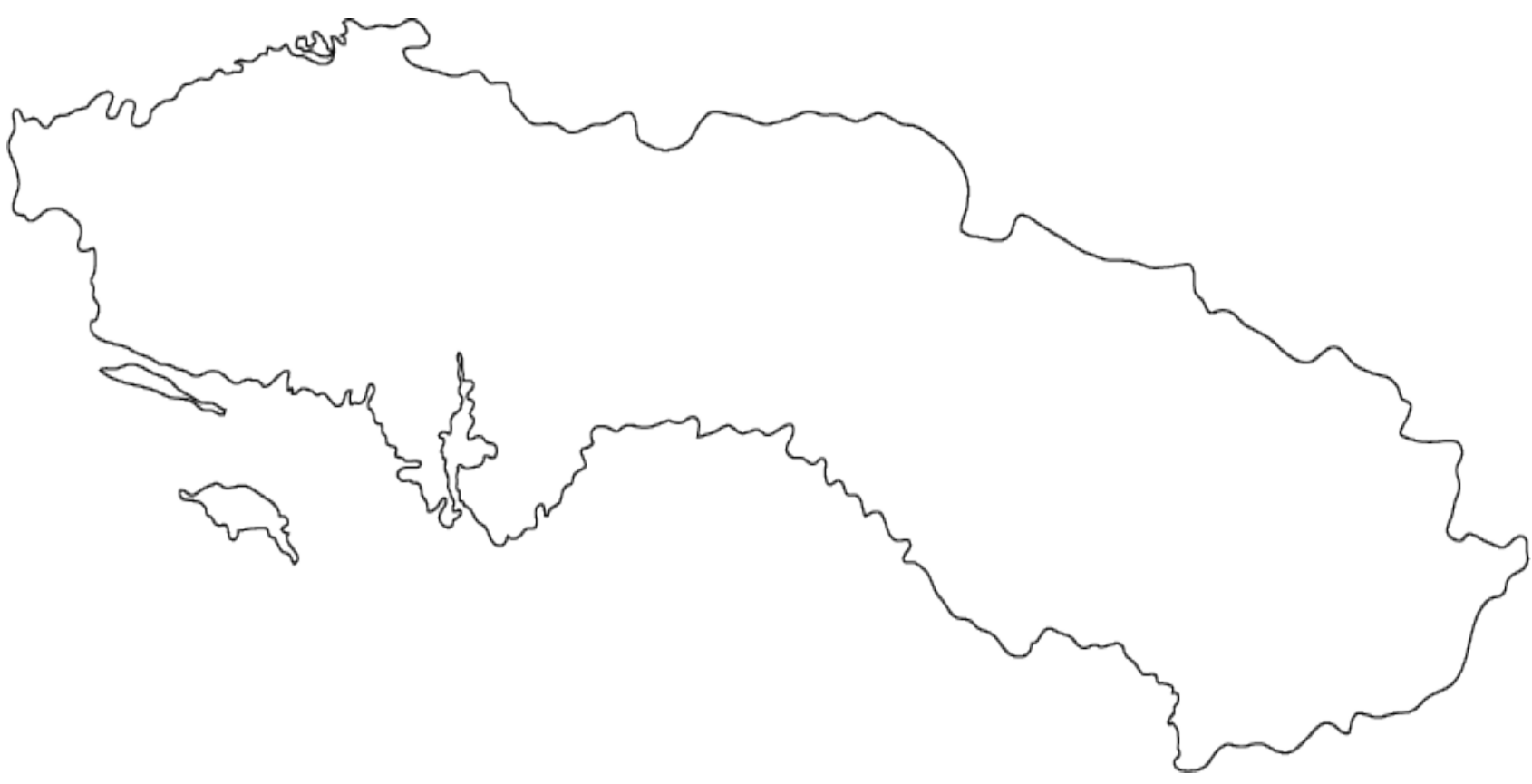
Create a Themed Pocket book w/ 5 pockets for each country you'll visit.

This unit is completed the three weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas Break.

Day 1 Introduction	Day 2 Sweden	Day 3 Sweden	Day 4 Kenya	Day 5 Kenya
<p>-Poem: December Celebrations (See attached) -Watch Holidays Around the World movie -Make and Read: December is time to Celebrate Mini-book.</p>	<p>-Tell students they are going to the country of Sweden. Pass out Holiday Express Pocket Book with Holiday Express Map on the front. -Locate Sweden and have students color on their map. -Pass out page with the outline of Sweden and flag. -Color and put in Sweden pocket. -Read book Where we live, Sweden. After reading make a venn diagram to compare and contrast American and Swedish children.</p>	<p>-Review info learned yesterday about Sweden. -Read Christmas In Sweden by Cheryl Enderlein. Create a list of Swedish Traditions. -Review the tradition of St. Lucia Day. (Dec. 13th) -Make crowns of candles for students to wear. Boys can make "Star Boy" hats. -Eat breakfast treat to celebrate.</p> <p>Alternative Activities: -Tell students that if they went to Sweden on of the souvenirs they would probably bring home would be a Dala Horse. -Discuss that Dala Horses are hand carved, brightly painted wooden toys that are made in Dalarna Sweden. The horses are usually red and decorated. -Tell students that Swedish children's folktales many times have mischevious trolls. This folktales also has a Dala Horse. Predict what the story may be about. -Read Per and Dala Horse by Rebecca Hickox -Have students make a Dala Horse (Red construction paper horse) Have students decorate with many shapes and colors. -Do fill in the blank info. Sheet in the pocket book for Sweden</p>	<p>-Get on plane departing Sweden. -Introduce Kenya with a bag of clues. Pack bag with several items such as: *Pinaeapple, coffee beans, cotton (Kenya's crops) *Cashews, bananas (Grown in Kenya) *Pictures of antelopes, cheetahs, graffes (Animals in Kenya) *Soccer ball (Pop. Sport) *Index card with word Jambo (Swahili for Hello) *Book, Post Cards from Kenya -Remove each item from the bag and reveal some info about it besides it's from Kenya. Help students use the clues to draw conclusions like whether it's hot or cold, close or far away) Reveal the book and country last. - Tell students they are going to the country of Kenya. Pass out Holiday Express Pocket Book with Holiday Express Map on the front. -Locate Kenya and have students color on their map. -Pass out page with the outline of Kenya and flag. -Color and put in Kenya pocket. -Tell children that many African Americans have ancestors from the country of Kenya or countries in Africa near Kenya. Tell them that many African Americans celebrate Kwanzaa. Tell them that Kwanzaa is celebrated for 7 days, from Dec. 26th to Jan. 1st. -Read Kwanzaa, by Deborah Newton Chocolate. Discuss how the boy's family lit a candle for each day on the Kinara. -Make Kinara</p>	<p>-Review what children know about Kwanzaa. - Read, It's Kwanzaa Time by Synthia Saint -Do "7 Symbols of Kwanzaa" Sheet (Teachers Helper, Grade 1, Nov-Jan, '96-97 -Discuss with students that one of the 7 principles is creativity. Have kids be creative by using black, red, and green beads to make a Kwanzaa necklace. -When finished, fill in the information sheet in the pocket book about Kenya.</p>

Day 6 Mexico	Day 7 Mexico	Day 8 Mexico	Day 9 Israel	Day 10 Israel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tell students they are going to visit the country of Mexico. -Show large class map. Locate Mexico -Have children color Mexico on their Holiday Express map. -Pass out page with the outline of Mexico and flag. -Color and put in Mexico pocket. -Read book Look What Came From Mexico by Miles Harvey; pick and choose the selections you want to share. -Make Mini-book "A Tourists Guide to Mexico" -Add to pocketbook. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review what was learned about Mexico. -Read about how Christmas is celebrated in Mexico. Christmas in Mexico by Enderlein -List traditions on chart paper -Then read, Pancho's Pinata by Stefan Czernecki. Preview and predict what the story may be about. After reading discuss how the pinata came to be according to this story. Do they think this story really happened? -Make pinata pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Display a real poinsettia. Ask children if they've ever seen a poinsettia. Where? What does the flower remind them of? -Explain that Dr. Joel Poinsett, the American Ambassador to Mexico from 1825-1829, introduced the plant to the US. The poinsettia is also known as "flor de la noche Buena" or the flower of the holy night. -Read The Legend of the Poinsettia retold by Tomie DePaola. Explain what a legend is. After reading have the students explain what the legend of this story is. -Make construction paper poinsettias. -Fill in the blanks on the Mexico information sheet in the Holiday Express Pocket Book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tell students they are going to visit the country of Israel -Show large class map. Locate Israel -Have children color Israel on their Holiday Express map. -Pass out page with the outline of Israel and flag. -Color and put in Israel pocket. -Read book Postcards from Israel by Denise Allard -Read a book about Hannukah. -Make Edible Dreidels <div data-bbox="1171 540 1587 873" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="1161 873 1575 954">Need: Pretzels, Hershey kiss, marshmallows, powdered sugar/water frosting and chocolate sprinkles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Talk about Hanukkah being a Jewish December Celebration. -Read Herschel and the Hanukkah Goblins. Discuss the story. -Make a Menorah

Day 11 Germany	Day 12 Germany	Day 13 Germany	Day 14 Germany	Day 15 Germany
<p>-Tell students they are going to visit the country of Germany.</p> <p>-Show large class map. Locate Germany</p> <p>-Have children color Germany on their Holiday Express map.</p> <p>-Pass out page with the outline of Germany and flag.</p> <p>-Color and put in Germany pocket.</p> <p>-Read book Christmas in Germany by Kristin Keller</p> <p>List on the chart what the students have learned about Germany.</p>	<p>-Read the book: An Early American Christmas by Tomie DePaolo</p> <p>-Discuss how many of our Christmas traditions come from Germany just like the book described.</p> <p>-What are some things that the Christmas Family (Family from Germany) did that we do today?</p> <p>-Create a Venn Diagram of the Early American Christmas Family (Germans) and Us</p>	<p>-Review the part of An Early American Christmas by Tomie DePaolo where they string the popcorn. Pass out An Early American Christmas mini-book.</p> <p>Do popcorn patterns.</p> <p>-String popcorn and hang outside in the evergreen trees.</p>	<p>Review the part of An Early American Christmas by Tomie DePaolo where they cut paper to decorate the bushes.</p> <p>-Read The Christmas Alphabet. (A book of paper crafts by Scholastic)</p> <p>-Do pg 2 of the Early American Christmas book on Scherenschnittes.</p> <p>-Make Snowflakes. Decorate snowflakes with glitter.</p>	<p>Discuss that Germans and the family in An Early American Christmas by Tomie DePaolo made cookies to decorate their trees. Have students decorate the cookies on p. 3 of the mini-book.</p> <p>-Bake and decorate Christmas cookies as a class.</p>



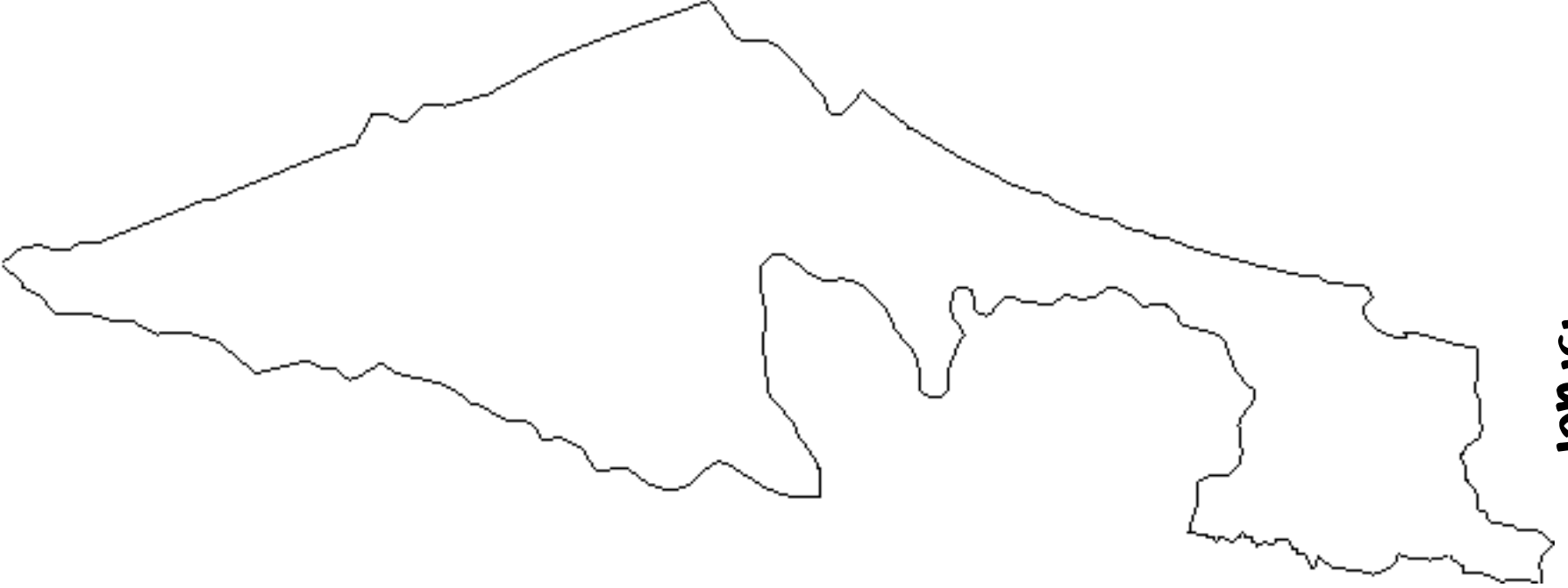
Sweden

Kenya



Mexico





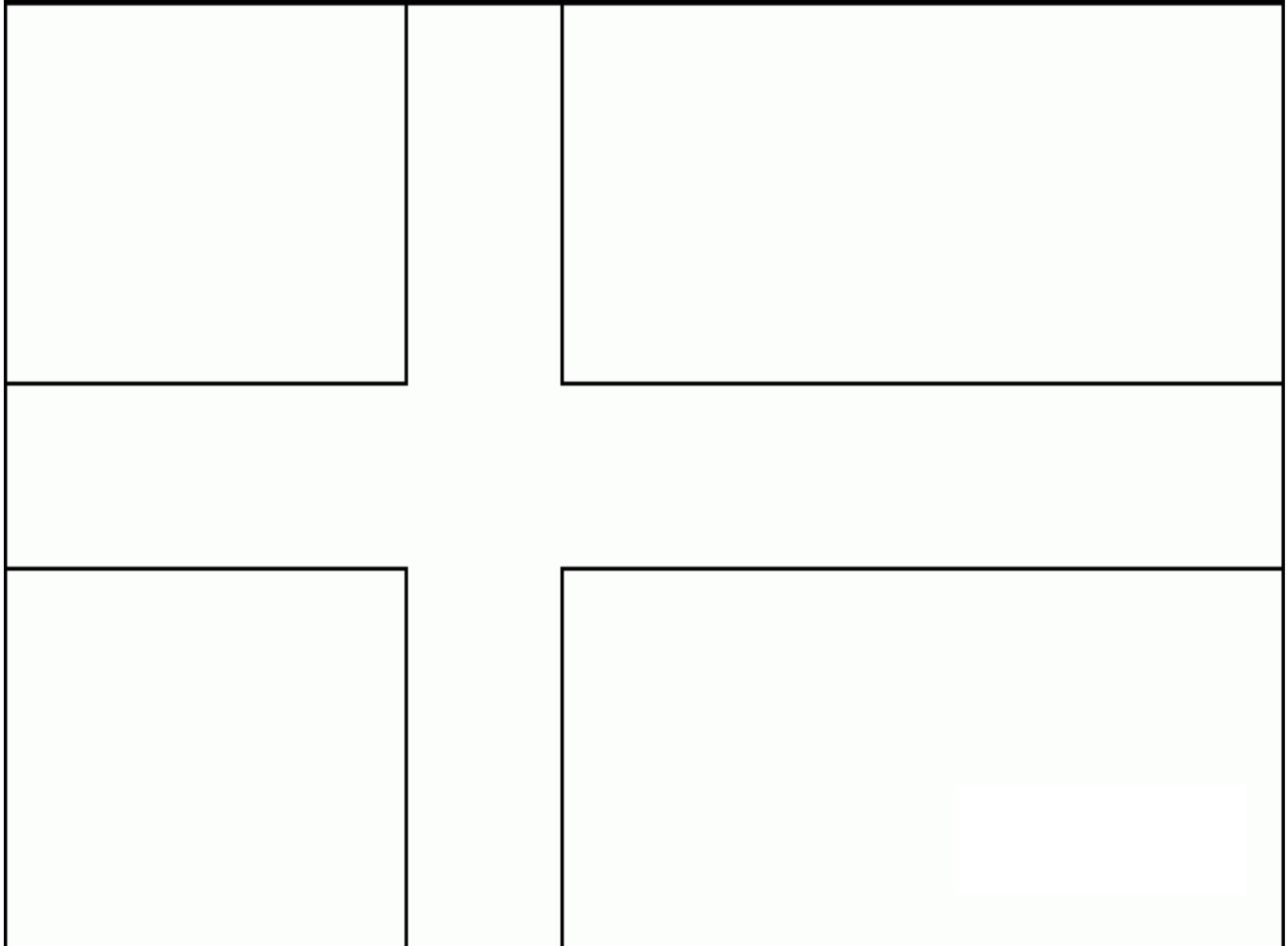
Israel

Germany

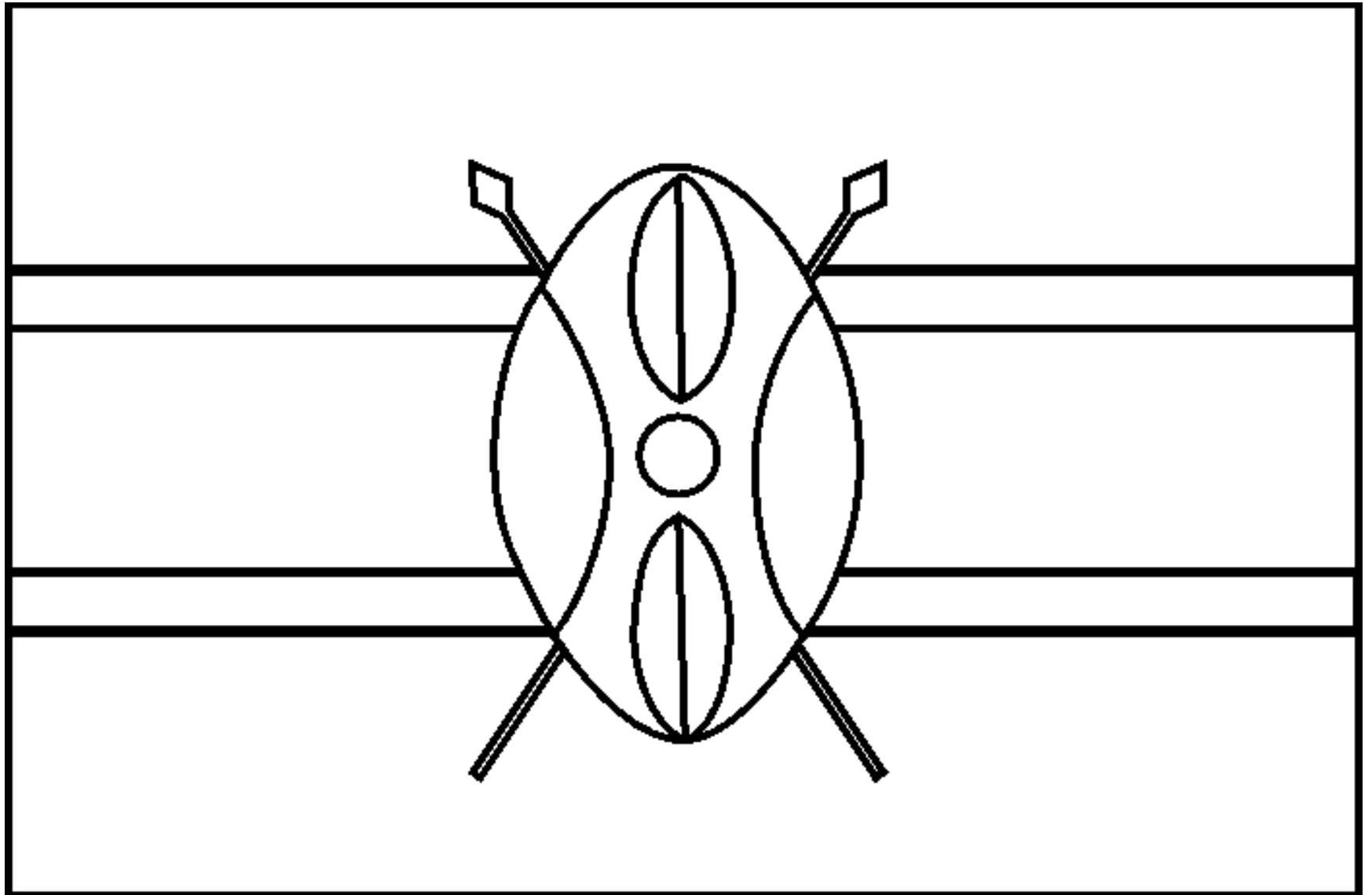


Germany

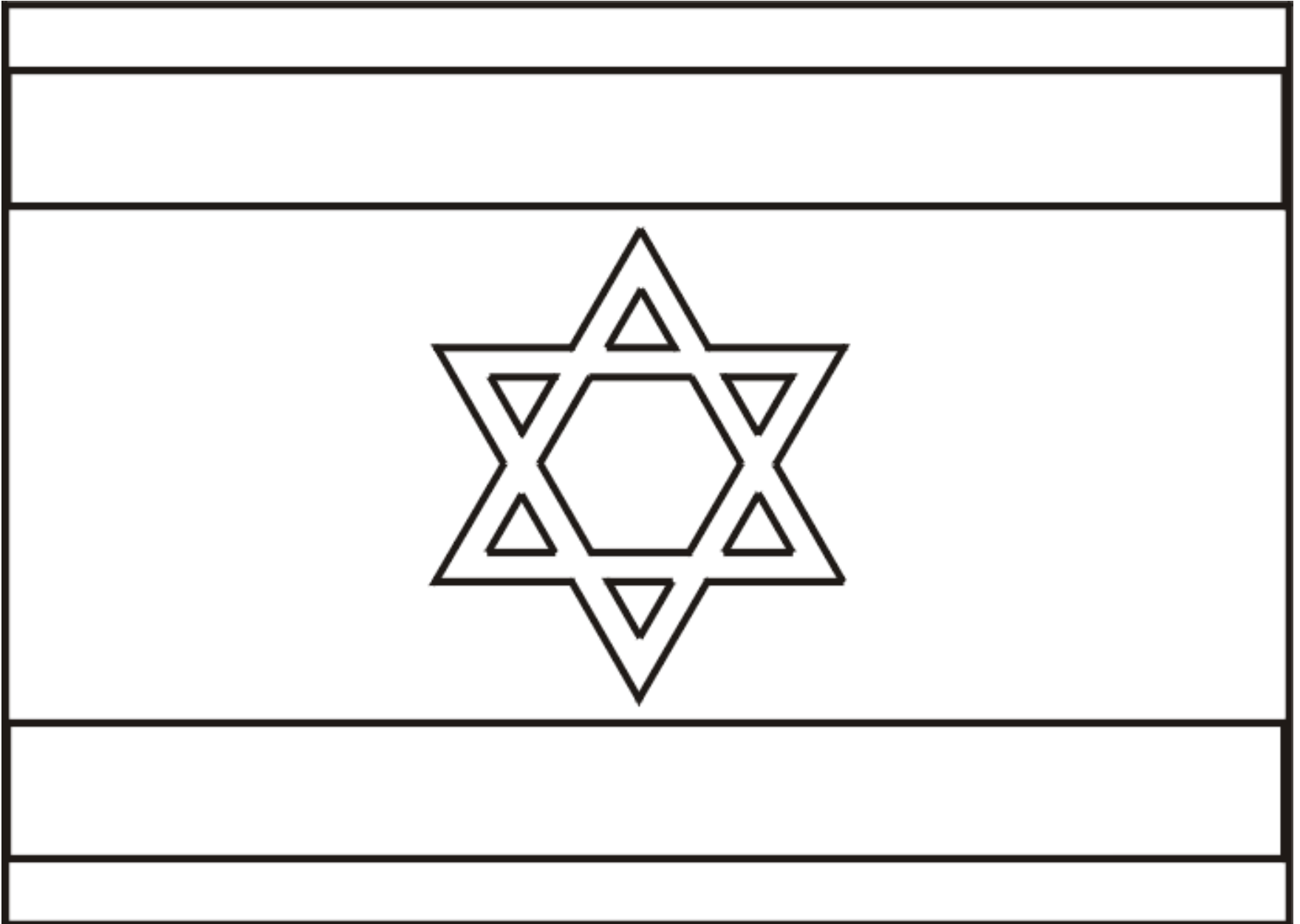
Sweden



Kenya



Israel



Mexico



Resources for crafts etc. mentioned in the unit.

St. Lucia Crowns/Star Boy Hats

<http://kiddley.com/2006/12/13/paper-santa-lucia-crowns-and-hats/>

St. Lucia Crowns (printable)

<http://www.makinglearningfun.com/themepages/StLuciaCrown.htm>

Kinara Craft

http://www.first-school.ws/t/craft/kwanzaa_kinarab.htm

Menorahs

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/world/jewish/mpaper.html>

<http://www.crayola.com/crafts/detail/chanukah-handprint-menorah-craft/>

Poinsettia

<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/p.asp?b=m&p=http://www.dltk-holidays.com/xmas/ppaper-poinsettia.asp>



If I visited _____ during the holiday season...

I might see _____.

I might eat _____.

I may also _____.

_____.



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I might see _____.

I might eat _____.

I may also _____.

_____.



Kinara

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