



Carnival time!

Carnivals are public celebrations that can include **parades**, **costumes**, public street parties, dances and music. There are different carnivals around the world and some of the most famous ones are in South America. Nelson, Carmen, Rosalía and Paulo tell us about popular carnivals in their countries.



Nelson

The most famous carnival in my country is in Montevideo, the capital city. It usually starts at the end of January and ends around mid-March. During this time, **tablados** are put up in the streets and different groups of artists perform a kind of popular opera. I love watching them recite, sing and dance! Every year, I go to the carnival parade with my family.

We usually go during the weekends because my parents work during the week. I don't **dress up** or put on **make-up** for the parade, but I watch it and dance *candombe* to the rhythm of the *tamboriles*. And I love having a *chivito* sandwich. I prefer it with cheese, tomatoes, eggs and mayonnaise, together with chips, of course! It's delicious!





Carmen

A famous carnival in my country **takes place** in Cajamarca, a town in the north. I always participate in it because it has its origins in the Nazca culture and tradition. There are street parades and traditional rituals. For example, my friends and I dance in a circle around the *unsha*, a tree adorned with **ribbons**, balloons, toys, fruits, bottles and other **prizes**. At a certain moment, the ceremony leader (the *Mayordomo*) walks into the circle and, together with other people, they take turns to cut the tree down with a *machete*. When the tree falls, my friends and I run to **grab** the prizes. It's a lot of fun!



Rosalía

In my country, the most important carnival is in the city of Oruro. This carnival is called *La Diablada* and it's a celebration in honour of the *Virgen de Socavón* (the Virgin of the Tunnels), the **miners'** patron saint. I like participating in the carnival because many of my **relatives** work in the mines. I'm a member of one of the 50 groups of people who play music, sing and dance on a long **track**. Participants wear costumes, so I sometimes dress up as a demon, an angel or an Inca. This year I want a different costume; I want to be a Latin American heroine!





Paulo



One of the biggest and most famous carnivals in the world is in Rio de Janeiro. It's a big street carnival. Many different groups participate in the parade. The groups are called *samba schools*. They wear elaborate costumes to tell a story in the *sambodromo*, a special construction in the city. I don't like participating in the carnival, so I just **buy** a ticket to watch the parade. I sometimes go to the *sambodromo* with my family, but I enjoy myself much more when I go with my friends. We like the combination of European, indigenous and Afro-Brazilian traditions. But what we really love is eating *feijoada*, a typical Brazilian dish with **pork**, beans and rice.

SOCIAL SKILLS

**Develop
intercultural
awareness and
welcome diversity.**

Think, share and play!



1 Think and discuss: Where are these teens from? Which carnival do you like most? Why? 

2 Write *Uruguay*, *Peru*, *Bolivia* or *Brazil*.

- 1** People dance around a plant in this carnival. _____
- 2** People can pay to participate in this carnival. _____
- 3** Different groups of artists dance and sing to a popular type of music in this carnival. _____
- 4** The name of this carnival refers to the devil. _____
- 5** There is one important person in this carnival. _____
- 6** During this carnival, 'stages' are put up in the streets. _____
- 7** There is a special construction in the city for this carnival. _____

3 Circle the correct option.



Hi! I'm Emilia. I'm from Chile. In the north of my country, the International Andean Carnival with the Strength of the Sun takes place every year in **1 summer / winter**, during January or February. It's one of the most important carnivals in **2 North / South America**. More than 16,000 **3 dances / dancers** and musicians of diverse styles, from different regions of the **4 country / province** and abroad, participate in it. They compete according to different dance categories. I don't usually go to the carnival parade because I **5 like / live** in the south of Chile. But I like watching it on TV with my friends!

4 Complete the text with the words and numbers from the box.
There is one extra option.

80 Paraguay carnival Paraguayan 12,000 Saturdays



Hi! I'm Amaru. I'm from **1** _____. The Carnival of Encarnación is the most important one in my country. The *Corsos Encarnacenos* take place at the *sambodromo* for five consecutive **2** _____. Five clubs, with 60 to **3** _____ members each, parade on a long track surrounded by **4** _____ spectators from different parts of the world. I always go to the parade with my family the day of the Carnival Queen's election. But what I like the most about the **5** _____ is that I can eat all the *chipá* and drink all the *tereré* I want!

5 In groups, plan a carnival parade at your school and design a flyer.
Use these questions as a guide. Then share with the class.

- What is its name?
- Who can participate?
- Where is it?
- What can people wear?
- When is it?
- What can people do during the carnival?