

Meet-a-German Teaching Ideas and Resources

- Here are some teaching suggestions that we at Fulbright Germany have put together to help with your Meet-a-German event. We've divided them up into five sections:
 - Culture
 - Geography
 - Food
 - Music, Art, Literature
 - Other

- Make a biography about an important person from Germany. For example, one could pick a person such as Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and make a timeline of the important events in his life; birth, when his famous novels were written, death, et cetera.
- Choose a famous German person and think of questions that you would like to ask them. Continuing with a famous writer like Goethe, you could make questions regarding his well-known texts. Or one could choose a political persona like Angela Merkel and then create questions about her childhood, education, and political career.
- Find out about Oktoberfest (or another popular event in Germany). When did it first take place? How is it celebrated today? Are there perhaps any American holidays that share a resemblance with the German Holiday you chose? If so, what are the similarities?
- Make a set of questions and answers that will help others to learn more about life in Germany. Examples could include: What foods are common in a German household? Are there large difference in the personalities of different German cities?
- Create a calendar that shows the dates of important festivals and celebrations in Germany. How do people celebrate these events? Perhaps pick one or two of these events that most interest you and explore them further.
- Identify five American TV or pop stars with German roots and talk about their biography. What brought their family to America in the first place? Do they still have a strong connection to the German culture and language?
- Sponsor a “Dress like a German day” with prizes. To help, perhaps search for picture examples online of the different ways people dress in different places in Germany such as Munich, Berlin, et cetera.

- Compare the area / population of Germany with other countries in Europe and around the world. How big is the average family in Germany? What are the living conditions like compared to other countries in Europe?
- Use an outline map of Germany to plot the locations of different towns, cities, and places of interest. A free template is available with our other teaching materials.
- Take a look at maps of Germany from different time periods. Since Germany was made up of many smaller German-speaking kingdoms and principalities, it could be interesting to see how they came together to form the Bundesländer (federal states) that we know today.
- Find out the names of the countries that share a border with Germany. Can you label these on a map? What languages are spoken in those countries? Are there significant populations of German speakers in those countries?
- Can you create your own map of Germany and show the main cities, geographical features and other famous landmarks? Perhaps you could even draw small pictures of major landmarks to represent different cities, such as the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin or the Cologne Cathedral.
- Plan a visit to Germany. Which cities and towns would you most like to visit? How will you get there? How long will it take? How much might it cost? What will you need?
- There are more than 25,000 castles in Germany, can you find out about some of them? Could you plot their location on a map? Could you draw one of the more well-known castles? Maybe do some research: how do castles in Germany differ from the ones that can be found in other countries like France and the United Kingdom?
- Color a blank version of the German flag using our template below. Do some research into the history of the German flag. What are its three colors supposed to represent? What was the historical/political situation when this flag came into use.

- Write a recipe to help somebody to create a German meal. Do some research and think about the ingredients they might need. Once you've picked your food and found ingredients, write a small introduction to the dish including information such as where in Germany it originates from.
- Try some German food. Could you make a menu for a German meal? Could you create some of the meals? Are there certain ingredients that would be difficult to obtain outside of Germany?



- Listen to music by famous German composers (e.g. Bach, Beethoven and Strauss). What sort of feelings do the works of these composers inspire in you? In what ways are these composers similar to each other? In which ways are they different?
- Listen to music that is popular in Germany today. How is it similar / different to your favorite music?
- Create some illustrations of traditional German costumes.
- Write a letter to a German penpal. Try and learn some simple words in German that you could use in your letter.
- Read some of the Grimms' fairy tales. Could you retell one of them to a friend?
- Singalong a German song: <https://www.youtube.com/user/muenchenmedia?feature=watch>

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We encourage you to take pictures during your classroom session and to send them to us:
meetagerman@fulbright.de

For social media you may use #meetagerman #wunderbartogether #fulbrightgermany to contribute to our nationwide campaign which will be livestreamed on October 3rd. We kindly ask you to make sure that the taking of pictures is allowed in the classroom.

We look forward to Likes, Shares, Tags