

1 Match the texts (1-4) to the pictures (A-D).



May

DAY

in the UK

Customs and Symbols

In the UK, May Day is a celebration of spring and the coming of summer. It takes place on the first Monday in May each year. All over the country, different towns and villages hold May Day celebrations.

1 THE MAYPOLE

The Maypole is an important part of a May Day celebration. It is a tall pole with colourful ribbons on it. On May Day, people dance around the maypole each holding a ribbon in their hand.

2 THE MAY QUEEN

Every year, each area chooses a young girl to be the May Queen and lead the parade. On May Day, the May Queen usually wears a white dress and a crown of flowers on her head.

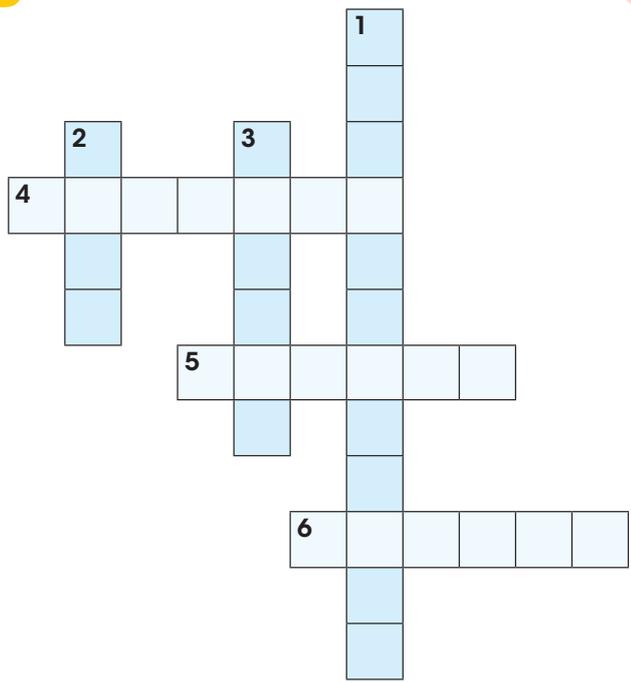
3 JACK-IN-THE-GREEN

Jack-in-the-Green is another May Day symbol in parts of the UK. Jack-in-the-Green is usually a man who wears green. The costume has got leaves and decorations on it that make it look like a plant.

4 MORRIS DANCERS

At May Day celebrations, you can often see Morris dancers. They usually wear white shirts and trousers with colourful ribbons on them and bells on their legs. Morris dancing is a type of British folk dancing and is a lot of fun!

2 Do the crossword.



Down

- 1 There are May Day _____ all over the UK.
- 2 _____-in-the-Green wears a green costume.
- 3 In the UK, May Day is on the first _____ in May.

Across

- 4 People dance around the _____ with ribbons.
- 5 The May Queen leads the May Day _____.
- 6 _____ dancers wear bells on their legs.

3 **ICT** In groups, find May Day customs or symbols from other countries. Present them to the class.