



Access English Centre  
Immigrant Centre Manitoba  
Activity Plan - Beginner Level



Canadian Holidays - Valentine's Day  
90 minutes

**Objective/Goal:**

This activity requires the participants to work together to learn about Canadian traditions such as celebrating Valentine's Day. Culture sharing is a great way to get the group talking. **Preparation needed:** You will need to cut out the cards and pictures for each pair of participants.

**Materials:**

**Participants need:** a set of Valentine's Day pictures and a set of vocabulary flash cards.

**Facilitator needs:**

White board / white board marker, a set of Valentine's Day pictures, and a set of vocabulary cards (**see the foot note about Valentine's Day**)

**Procedure:** Warm-up 15 min  
Work-out 60 min  
Cool-down 15 min

Ask the whole group **"When is Valentine's Day?" "Do you celebrate Valentine's Day?" "What do you do on Valentine's Day?"** After listening to their answers, have them come up to the front to present one of the pictures to the whole group. The key frame sentences are **"What do Canadians do on Valentine's Day?" "On Valentine's Day, people write Valentine's Day cards. People give chocolates."**

**1. Warm-up Activity:** Introduce Valentine's Day by writing the following words on the board. Then ask the group to repeat them with you several times. For beginner level, only introduce the short version. Define and explain unfamiliar words.

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>1. Valentine's Day</b> | <b>2. write and send Valentine cards</b>         |
| <b>3. give chocolates</b> | <b>4. give flowers</b>                           |
| <b>5. give a present</b>  | <b>6. say "Happy Valentine's Day" to friends</b> |

**Whole class Practice Drill:** Have participants repeat the phrases and the sentences with you a few times. And then ask them **“Is February 14 a special day in your life?” “Do you celebrate Valentine's Day in your home country?”** Wait for their answer. If they do, ask them to share how they mark the day. Then practice how Canadians celebrate Valentine's Day. Ask the group:

**Ask: What do people do on Valentine's Day?**

**Answer: 1. People give chocolates, and presents.**

**Answer: 2. People celebrate friendship and love.**

**Answer 3. People write Valentine cards..**

Ask the participants to read the sentences aloud with you and repeat the prompts till they get them right.

## **2. Workout activity:**

**Activity 1 - Whole class Practice** - Have participants say the correct sentence that matches the picture prompt.

Hold up one of the cards; for example, write Valentine's Day cards". Ask the group: **“What do people do on Valentine's Day?”** so that they will reply **“On Valentine's Day,, people write Valentine's Cards.”** Continue with the other cards. Alternate between asking the whole group and individual participants.

**Activity 2: Pair work** - Pair up participants and give each pair a set of picture cards/sentences. Have each pair get a picture or word card from the pile and ask each other to give the answer to the frame sentence **“What do people do on Valentine's Day?” “People give gifts to their loved ones.”**

**3. Cool down** - Encourage the participants to share with the whole group what holidays they celebrate in spring time in their countries.

**“What do Canadians do on Valentine’s Day?”**  
**“In Canada, people write on Valentine’s Day Card.”**

**Celebrate Valentine’s  
Day  
on February 14.**



**Write on  
Valentine’s Day cards**



**Give Valentine cards to  
friends and family  
members**



**Give presents to the  
people they love**



**Give chocolates to the people they love**

**Give flowers to the people they love**



### **Note to the facilitators:**

Valentine's Day is on February 14th. It is a special day to celebrate love and friendship. On Valentine's Day, Canadian people give cards, candy, and flowers to the ones they love. School children make and sign Valentine's Day cards at home and bring them to school for their classmates. At school, some teachers show their students how to make Valentine's Day cards for their parents. Adults listen to romantic music, write love letters to each other, and eat out at restaurants. The popular colors are red and pink, and the popular symbols are red hearts, red roses, teddy bears, bows and arrows, and Cupid. Cupid is a mythical figure. He is a winged **god of love** and the son of Venus. (Source: [www.busyteacher.com](http://www.busyteacher.com) )