



A CHRISTMAS CAROL
CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD
Grade Levels: 3-5, with adjustment K-2

OBJECTIVES

- Students will expand their knowledge of global Christmas and other holiday traditions

MATERIALS

- A Global Christmas Worksheet (attached)
- Erasers, markers, crayons, colored pencils, pens, etc.

PROCEDURE

1. Hand out a copy of the attached A Global Christmas Worksheet to each student.
2. Students may work together in pairs to figure out which holiday tradition and which greeting belongs to each country, then write the corresponding number and letter next to its flag.
3. Answers:
 - Yugoslavia 3G
 - Syria 6C
 - Australia 4E
 - India 1F
 - Iraq 5B
 - Japan 7D
 - Netherlands 2A

Pair each of these traditions and greetings with their appropriate flags

- A. Sinterklaas, dressed in red Bishop's robes, arrives on a white horse and gives gifts to children on December 6th. Sarte Piet, a moor, accompanies him. Sarte Piet carries a birch rod to punish the naughty children.
- B. On Chirstmas Eve, a child in the family reads the story of the Nativity. When the story is finished, a bonfire of dried thorns is lit. When the fire is reduced to ashes, everyone jumps over the ashes three times and makes a wish.
- C. Children receive presents on New Year's Day. The gifts are brought by the youngest of the camels that carried the Three Wise Men to Bethlehem. The children leave water and hay outside the house for the camel. In the morning the water and hay are gone, replaced by presents.
- D. On New Year's Eve, the house is cleaned and decorated for New Year's Day. They dress in the finest, and the father marches through the house followed by the rest of the family. They drive out evil spirits and throw dried beans into the corners, bidding the evil spirits to leave and good luck to those who enter.
- E. On Christmas Eve, thousands of people gather for "Carols by Candlelight." The evening is lit by many candles. They surround themselves with Christmas Bush, a native plant with little red flowers. At many beaches, Santa Claus arrives on a surfboard.
- F. On Christmas Eve, Christians go Christmas shopping and buy new clothes and shoes. It's a tradition to attend midnight mass with new apparel to bring Christmas spirit to families and communities. Once they reach home, they celebrate Christmas by lighting fire crackers.
- G. The second Sunday before Christmas is Mother's Day. Children creep in, tie her feet to a chair, and shout, "Mother's Day, Mother's Day, what will you pay to get away?" She then gives them presents. Children play the same trick on their father the week after, baking a gold or silver coin into their cake, chestnitsa, and whoever gets it can expect lots of good luck.

1. Shub Naya Baras
2. Zalig Kerstfeast
3. Cestitamo Bozie
4. Happy Christmas
5. Jdah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah
6. Mboni Chrismen
7. Merii Kurisumasa



SYRIA

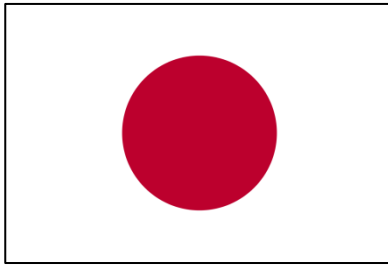
YUGOSLAVIA

AUSTRALIA

INDIA

JAPAN

IRAQ

NETHERLANDS