

DECEMBER HOLIDAYS LIBRARY LESSON

Created by a certified
school librarian

Includes 10 Holidays

Presentation +
printable activities

Grades 2-5



LAS POSADAS

On the last night of Las Posadas, which is also Christmas Eve, the singing children are allowed into the house.

They play piñata, sing songs, light fireworks, and eat food. At midnight, the family goes to church together for Midnight Mass.

RECOMMENDED READS

"December Holidays"

- PICTURE BOOKS**
- Uri and the King of Darkness: A Hanukkah Story (Bart)
 - Santa's First Christmas (Barnett)
 - How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney? (Barnett)
 - An Anishinaabe Christmas (Kinew)
 - Tamales for Christmas (Briseño)
 - Merry Christmas, Zoo (Schaefer and Eickholdt)
 - The Christmassy Cactus (Ferry)
 - The Christmassy Eve (Wilson)
 - The Christmassy Births: A Celebration of Birthdays (Schaefer)

SCAVENGER HUNT

"December Holidays"

Can you find all these items?



SCAVENGER HUNT

All these items and answer the questions about December Holidays slides. Can you find them?

What is a ha'penny?

LET'S TALK ABOUT...DECEMBER HOLIDAYS!

Today in the library, we learned about December Holidays. Here are some things I learned!

- December Holidays Quiz**
- The 12th Day of Christmas has two other names. What are they?
 - What do people do on Boxing Day?
 - Name a country that has Christmas in the summer.
 - On what holiday do people eat a kind of...

Let's Draw a polar bear!



our Turn:



DESIGNED FOR THE SPECIALS ROTATION



reindeer

SIGN LANGUAGE

for "holiday."

This is the

DECEMBER HOLIDAYS

Many countries have December holiday traditions.

Even within one country, you can find multiple traditions celebrating lots of different cultures.



This December Holidays Library Lesson is designed for one 50-minute library class, or two 25-minute classes.

Parts I and II divide naturally, making it easy to stop and pick up the lesson next week.

HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL GET



2-part Library Lesson presentation (55 slides)



List of 32 Recommended December Holiday Reads for Grades 2-5



2 Differentiated Scavenger Hunt activities



Take-Home Extension Activities (2 pages)



PPT and Google Slides versions

INCLUDES 10 DECEMBER HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS

- Christmas
- Hanukkah
- Kwanzaa
- Pancha Ganapati (Hindu)
- Boxing Day
- Las Posadas (Mexico)
- La Befana (Italy)
- Christmas in Australia
- Ugly Christmas sweaters
- Epiphany / Three King's Day / Candlemas (Spain, Philippines, Mexico, Latin America)

DID YOU KNOW...?

Rosca de Reyes, or King's Cake, is shaped in a circle to represent a king's crown.

Hidden somewhere in the cake, there is a small figurine of baby Jesus.

If you get the figurine, you must host the next Christmas.



WORD OF THE WEEK

EPIPHANY

Epiphany a holiday in many countries.

Epiphany is the 12th Day of Christmas. It officially marks the end of the holiday season.



WHAT TO DO AFTER CHECKOUT

Printable activities give students something to work on after they finish checking out.

RECOMMENDED READS

"December Holidays"

PICTURE BOOKS

Uri and the King of Darkness: A Hanukkah Story (Bait)
Santa's First Christmas (Barnett)
How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney? (Barnett)
An Anishinaabe Christmas (Kimmel)
Tamales for Christmas (Brisen)
Merry Christmas, Zoo (Schaefer)
The Christmassy Cactus (Ferry)
One Foggy Christmas Eve (Wil)
Eight Nights of Lights: A Celebration of Hanukkah (Kimmelman)
The Night of Las Posadas (dePa)
The Nutcracker in Harlem (McM)
Seven Spools of Thread (Medea)
Too Many Tamales (Soto)

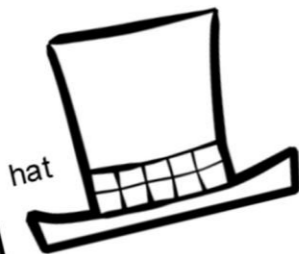
FICTION

Let It Snow (Meyer and Levy)
Juniper's Christmas (Colfer)
A Christmas Called Christmas (Haig)

SCAVENGER HUNT

"December Holiday"

Can you find all these pictures in the library?



SCAVENGER HUNT

All these items and answers are in the December Holidays slides. Can you find them?



What is a ha'penny?

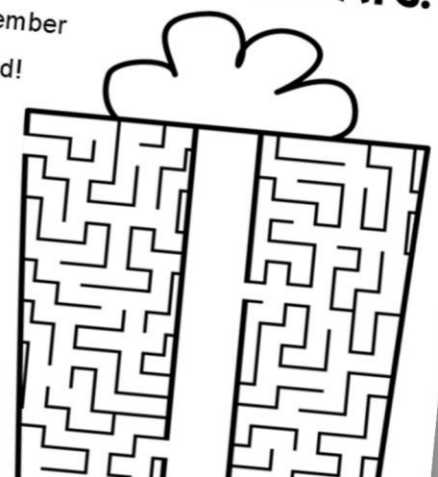
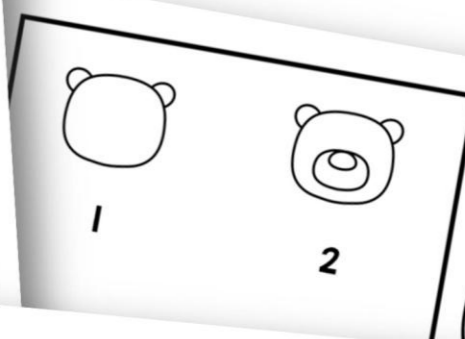
How tall was the world's tallest Christmas tree?

LET'S TALK ABOUT...DECEMBER HOLIDAYS!

Today in the library, we learned about December Holidays. Here are some things I learned!

December Holidays Quiz

1. The 12th Day of Christmas has two other names. What are they?
2. What do people do on Boxing Day?
3. Name a country that has Christmas in the summer.
4. On what holiday do people eat sufganiyot, a kind of fried jelly donut?
5. What religion is Hanukkah?

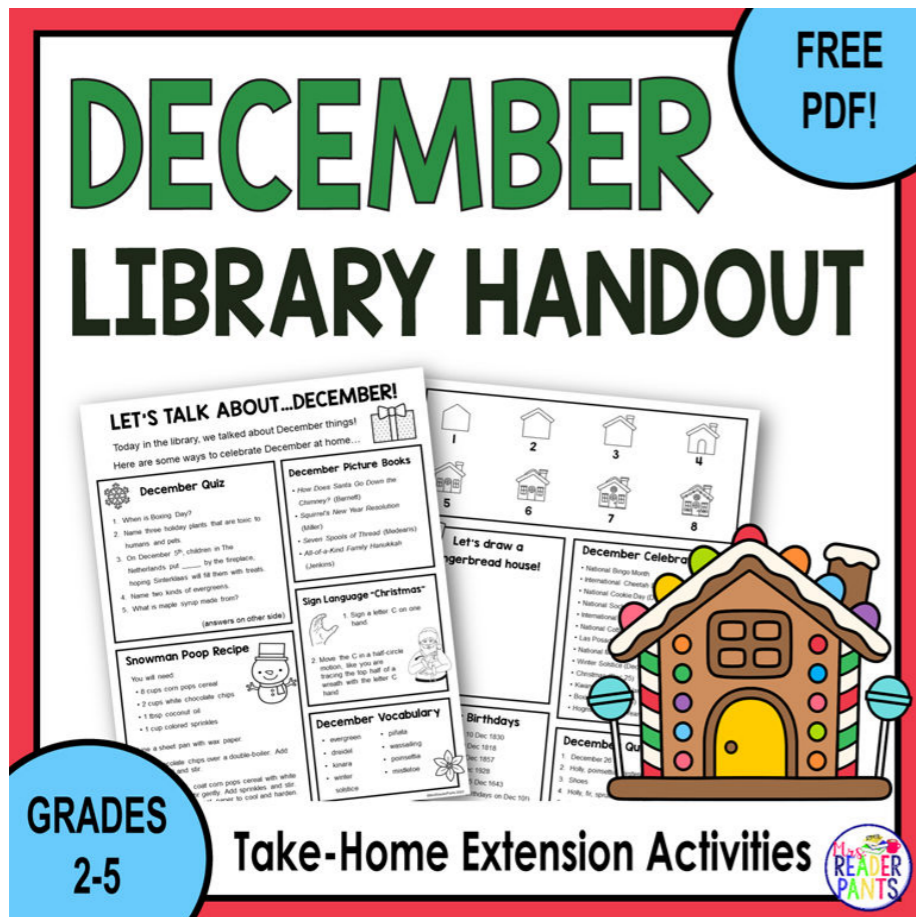


Let's
a po
bear

our Turn:

NOT SURE? TRY A FREEBIE?

You can assess the quality of this resource by downloading a similar printable resource!



DECEMBER LIBRARY HANDOUT

FREE PDF!

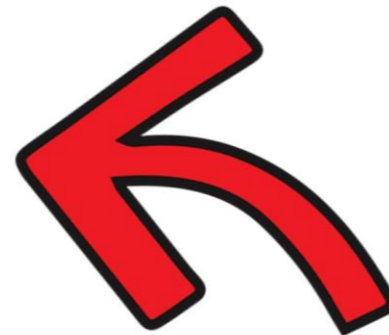
GRADES 2-5

Take-Home Extension Activities

READER PANTS

These free Take-Home Extension Activities are designed to send home with students after the December Digital Bulletin Board.

This December Holidays Library Lesson includes a similar activity.



[Click here to download the freebie!](#)

WHAT OTHER LIBRARIANS ARE SAYING...



“I used this in the school library before the holidays, and students loved learning about different ways to celebrate December. Engaging information, and accessible at their age. Thank you!”

~Canuck Classroom (used with Grades 1-4)



“I loved this as a resource to teach more than just Christmas during the winter. Thank you for making something that helps all my students feel included and opens their minds to ways other people celebrate during these months.”

~Alisha S. (used with Grades 2-5)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Am I really able to use this resource with 2nd and 5th grades?

Yes! This resource is very flexible. If desired, you can save different versions of it for different grades. Delete slides, move them around, edit the text...all are easy to do in PPT or Google Slides!

Do you have lessons like this for other holidays?

Yes! I have around 100 of these lessons for various grades. Many of them are for other holidays.

Is this resource editable?

Yes – all text is editable in PPT and Google Slides.