



First time in a long time

— ❄️ —
Let's make Christmas count!



CELEBRATE THE SUN:

Whether your Christmas is full of snow or sunshine, we can all celebrate the sun. Make a dried orange garland using two things: orange and twine. It's a tradition in many countries to celebrate long sun-filled days or the end of the winter solstice.



2

EMBRACE TRADITION:

In Japan, it's common to eat fried chicken on Christmas Eve. Mongolian children will be waiting for Grandfather Frost and his granddaughter the Snow Maiden to bring them presents, while in Bolivia, people build manger made of mud and sticks to remember baby Jesus. What traditions do your family have? Research Christmas traditions from around the world and start a new tradition today!



3



MONITO MONITA:

No Christmas party at any school, house or office in the Philippines is complete without the Monito-Monita. A Filipino adaptation of Kris Kringle, it is a form of exchanging gifts where every participant has his or her own anonymous gift giver. The identities of both the receiver and giver will, later on, be revealed! Think Secret Santa, but with a twist! To play, simply set a budget and let everyone select a name at random out of a bag or jar. Bonus: Set a budget of zero – so everyone has to come up with meaningful but free gifts to surprise each other!

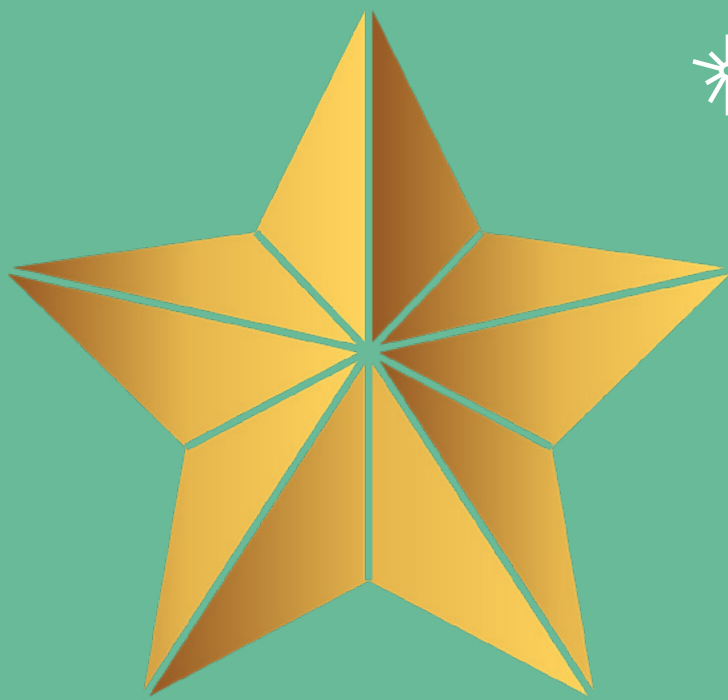


4



HOW DO YOU SAY IT?

Christmas is celebrated by people all over the world. Today, teach your family how to say “Merry Christmas” in three new languages. Here are some festive greetings to choose from! : Feliz navidad [fe-lis-na-βi-ðãð] (Spanish), Joyeux Noël [zhwa-yeu-noh-eh] (French), Feliz natal [fi.liZ.nɐ.ˈta] (Portuguese), Crăciun fericit [craw-ch-oon fair-ee-cheat] (Romanian), Maligayang pasko! (Tagalog), สุขสันต์วันคริสต์มาส / Suksan wan Christmas! (Thai), عيد ميلاد سعيد / Aiyeed milad sayeed! (Arabic), Selamat Hari Natal (Indonesian), Heri ya Krismasi (Swahili).



5

A CAROL PILGRIMAGE:

In many Latin countries, people celebrate the nine days leading up to Christmas, or la Navidad, with posadas or 'novenas', which are meant to simulate the pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph as they look for a place to sleep. People go carolling from house to house, where the neighbours also join in the procession. What's your favourite Christmas carol? Get your loved ones and the lyrics ready for a sing-along at home or even over Zoom with far-flung relatives!



6

GET CRAFTY:

Make homemade ornaments using [**this recipe**](#) with just three ingredients: salt, flour, and water! Drop the finished products in the mail to surprise someone you love or hang them from a neighbour's door! Did you know Chapati is one of the most common foods eaten in many parts of Africa? It is made using the same basic ingredients!





7

PENPALS:

Since the late 19th century, children across the globe have written letters to Santa. Some leave letters in their shoes, others stuff them in Christmas stockings, and some even send letters to Santa's Workshop. You're never too old to write to Santa (or perhaps a childhood friend you've since lost touch with) – just pick up a pen and start writing or send a quick email/text!



Let's make Christmas Count!