




Christmas




Around the World Facts & Writing Prompts!




ECU Pirate Teacher

 In Holland, people drink hot chocolate and eat cakes called *banketletters*. *Banketletters* are cakes in the shape of the first letter of the family's last name. Design and illustrate your family's *banketletter*. How would you make it? Create a recipe on [this page](#).


 In Ghana, families stay up until midnight on Christmas Eve playing games. Right before midnight, they count down the seconds to Christmas Day. What games would you like to play with your family? What would you do to countdown the seconds? Pretend you live in Ghana. Write about the games you would play and how you would countdown to Christmas day.


 Children in Mexico have *piñatas* at their Christmas parties! The *piñatas* are full of candy and toys. What would you fill your *piñata* with? What would your *piñata* look like? Design a *piñata* with toys and candy coming out of it. [Write about your piñata](#)

 In Italy, children write letters to their parents instead of Santa. They write about what they will do to be good next year and hide the letter in their dad's *napkin* on Christmas Eve. Write a letter to your parents and hide it in their [napkin](#).

 To show thanks for an abundant harvest (food they grow), people in Africa often have fruit salad with their celebrations. Create a fruit salad recipe. Be sure to include the ingredients and directions.

 In Norway, children go from house to house in the afternoons asking for sweets. Compare and contrast our Halloween to what people in Norway do at Christmas.

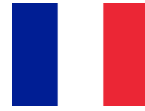
 Since Australia is in the Southern Hemisphere, Christmas happens during the summer! People in Australia often have picnics on the beach to celebrate Christmas. If you could have Christmas anywhere, where would you choose to celebrate Christmas? Write about it!

 In Japan, instead of spending the holiday with their families, people spend their holiday doing nice things for others. Develop a plan to do nice things for other people. First, decide who you want to do something nice for? It could be people who are sick in the hospital, homeless people, etc. Decide what you want to [do](#).

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In Italy, children write letters to their parents instead of Santa. They write about what they will do to be good the next year and hide the letter in their dad's napkin on Christmas Eve. Write a letter to your parents and hide it in their napkin on Christmas Eve!



Children in France put their shoes by the fireplace instead of a stocking. Père Noël comes and fills their shoes with surprises! Pretend you live in France and illustrate a picture of your shoe filled with surprises after Père Noël came! Write about what surprises are in your shoe!



People in England decorate their trees with candles, cornucopias, and fruits. If you could decorate your Christmas tree with anything what would you decorate it with? Illustrate a picture of your tree and write about its decorations.



In Germany, people spend the holiday season baking pastries like gingerbread and *stollen* (a sweet bread). Create a pastry you would like to eat. Illustrate a picture and write a recipe for it.



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In Japan, instead of spending the holiday with their families, people spend their holiday doing nice things for others. Develop a plan to do nice things for other people. First, decide who you want to do something nice for. It could be people who are sick in the hospital, homeless people, etc. Decide what you want to do for them and decide how you will get it done. What things do you need and who will help you?



In China, people decorate their Christmas trees with ornaments made of paper. Using paper, design an ornament for your Christmas tree. Write a list of the directions so your friends can make the ornament, too!



Children in Mexico have piñatas at their Christmas parties! The piñatas are full of candy and toys. What would you fill your piñata with? What would your piñata look like? Design a piñata with toys and candy coming out of it. Write about your piñata and what is inside it.



In Denmark, there is an elf named Nisse who plays tricks on people during Christmas. Nisse wears a red bonnet, red stockings, white clogs and gray woolen clothes. Illustrate a picture of Nisse. Write a story about the tricks he plays during Christmas.



In India, people give presents to their families and to those in need. Propose a plan to give presents to those who are in need. What will you give them? When and how will you deliver the items to them?



On Christmas Eve, people in Egypt go to church wearing a completely new outfit. Design a new outfit to wear to a Christmas Eve church service in Egypt. Develop a set of directions to tell how to make this new outfit.



In Greece, people don't usually put up Christmas trees. Instead, they have a wooden bowl with a piece of wire around the rim. A cross wrapped with basil is hung from the wire. Create your own Christmas symbol and tell what it symbolizes.



In Holland, people drink hot chocolate and eat cakes called banketletter. Banketletters are cakes in the shape of the first letter of the family's last name. Design and illustrate your family's banketletter. Be sure to decorate it and explain why you decorated the cake the way you did.



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