

LANG Primary



The end of the beginning!

December sees the publication of the final issue of our first year. Obviously a lot of work goes into producing a magazine such as **LANG Primary** but the editorial team consider their efforts handsomely rewarded by the very positive feedback they continue to receive from teachers.

If you have ideas or suggestions and would like to contact us, you can choose our email address, a Milan telephone number or a Turin fax number. It looks odd but the system works!

This issue, which has four extra pages, is dedicated to the Christmas festive season and is full of background information and worksheets you can photocopy and use with your children.

Enjoy the activities and, above all, have a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Features in this issue are:

- English World Worksheets for the Christmas season
- Ideas for getting the most out of the Internet at Christmas
- More Class and Teacher projects

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SINGING CAROLS

An English Tradition

The tradition of singing carols began in Victorian England. On the days leading up to Christmas, carollers go from door to door singing traditional Christmas songs which are called carols. People give the singers money which is donated to charity. Most of the carols sung today were composed in the 1800s. The earliest carols were sung to fast, happy tunes; the word "carol" comes from the French "carole" which means a song that people dance to. Carollers usually dress up in warm clothes, with gloves, hats and scarves because it can get very cold walking from house to house in the middle of winter.



Silent Night

*Silent Night, Holy Night,
All is calm, all is bright,
'Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child,
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent Night, Holy Night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from Heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.*

*Silent Night, Holy Night,
Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.*



O Come All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles)

*O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye
to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels;
O come let us adore Him;
O come let us adore Him;
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*

*Sing choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above.
"Glory to God
... In the Highest".
O come let us adore Him;
O come let us adore Him;
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*

The First Nowell (Noël)

*The first Noël the Angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay;
Keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night
That was so deep.
Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.*

*They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.*



White Christmas

*I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know.
Where the treetops glisten and children listen
to hear sleigh bells in the snow.
I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write.
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white.*



Jingle bells

Dashing through the snow,
In a one-horse open sleigh,
O'er the fields we go,
Laughing all the way!
Bells on bobtail ring,
Making spirits bright,
Oh what fun it is to ride
and sing a sleighing song tonight!

Jingle bells, Jingle bells,
Jingle all the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh, hey!
Jingle bells, Jingle bells,
Jingle all the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!

Ask your pupils
to illustrate
one of the carols
in this issue.



deck the halls

Words traditional

Traditional Welsh Melody

With spirit

1. Deck the halls with boughs of hol - ly,
2. See the blaz - ing Yule be - fore us, Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
3. Fast a - way the old year pass - es,

'Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly,
Strike the harp and join the chu - rus, Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lass - es,

Doa - we now our gay ap - par - el,
Fol - low me in mer - ry meas - ure, Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
Sing we joy - ous all to - geth - er,

Troll the an - cient Yule - tide car - ol,
While I tell of Yule - tide treas - ure, Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
Heed - less of the wind and weath - er,

OH, CHRISTMAS TREE...



Although it is uncertain how the tree became the symbol of Christmas, it is largely accepted that the Christmas tree, itself, is of German origin. The legend attributes the tradition to Martin Luther himself. While out for a walk one Christmas Eve, he was moved by the sight of stars twinkling through the branches of a tree. To recapture the scene for his family, he took an uprooted fir tree home and fixed candles onto its branches.

In Britain in 1841, Prince Albert, who was German and the husband of Queen Victoria, put up the first Christmas tree at Windsor Castle for his wife and their children. German immigrants introduced the Christmas tree to America in the 17th century. It reached all of the British colonies, including Canada, by the 1840s. Trees were traditionally decorated with nuts, fruit, sweets and paper decorations. The early trees were also decorated with candles but because of the danger of fire, an American telephonist invented the electric Christmas lights we know today.

Christmas Tree Activity

Cut two identical tree shapes from thick paper. Hold the pieces together and vertically through the middle.

Then, fold the sides out to create a three-dimensional shape that will stand alone. Decorate the tree using felt-pens or glitter.

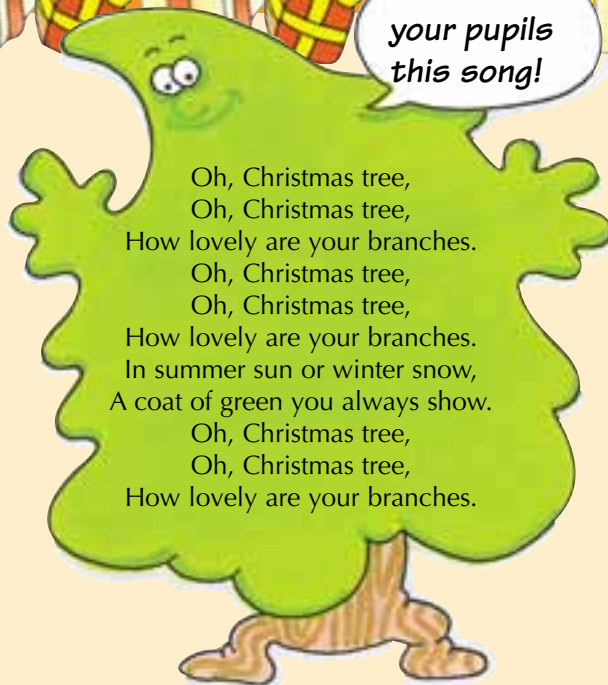


Right: since 1946, a huge decorated Christmas tree has been put up in Trafalgar Square each year, a gift from the people of Norway to the people of Britain.



Teach your pupils this song!

Oh, Christmas tree,
Oh, Christmas tree,
How lovely are your branches.
Oh, Christmas tree,
Oh, Christmas tree,
How lovely are your branches.
In summer sun or winter snow,
A coat of green you always show.
Oh, Christmas tree,
Oh, Christmas tree,
How lovely are your branches.



Christmas Cards

Exchanging Greetings by Mail

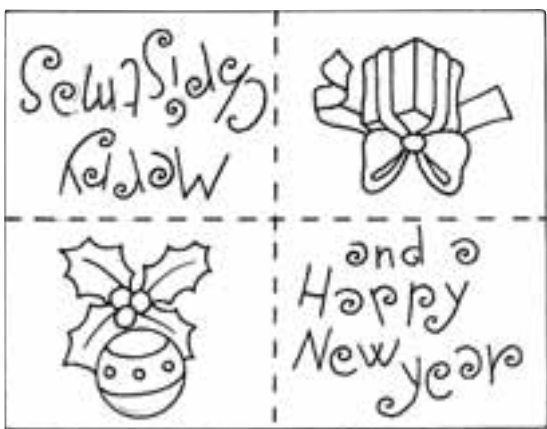
The tradition of sending Christmas cards to friends and acquaintances first started in England around the year 1850. The first Christmas card was created for Sir Henry Cole, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The card, which was similar to a postcard, was designed by John Horsely. At Christmas in 1846 a thousand copies were sold at a shilling each. The first card depicted a family merrily having Christmas dinner. The message on the card was "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You". At first, only the



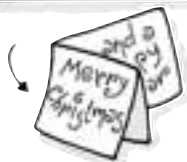
very rich could afford to send cards, so they did not become very popular until the development of cheaper printing techniques and the introduction of the half-penny stamp which made it inexpensive to send cards to a large number of friends. By the 1870s, the custom had spread throughout Britain and had also reached America. From the beginning, the themes and drawings on the cards have been as varied as the Christmas customs. Today at Christmas billions of cards are sold and sent all over the world.



A Special Christmas Card



ENLARGE
TO USE



GREETINGS for CHRISTMAS CARDS

Merry Christmas to you and a Happy New Year too!

Hope it's cheerful. Hope it's fun. Hope this Christmas is your favourite one.

Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year.

May Happiness and Joy be yours at Christmas and throughout the New Year.

It's Christmas – a perfect time to wish you happiness for the holidays and the coming year.

CHRISTMAS Down Under

Because Australia is located in the Southern Hemisphere, Christmas is in the middle of summer. As in other countries, it is a family occasion and people gather for the traditional meal which can include turkey, ham or pork. Often these dishes are cooked earlier and served cold together with salads and other food. Christmas dinner may be a picnic in the woods or on the beach. Many Australians in Sydney have their Christmas dinner on a local beach called Bondi Beach. The warm weather

allows Australians to enjoy the tradition called "Carols by Candlelight", which began in Melbourne in 1937. Every year on Christmas Eve tens of thousands of people from all over the country gather in the city of Melbourne to light their candles and sing their favourite carols under the night sky.

Houses and streets are brightly decorated with local plants and flowers. They are also surrounded with Christmas Bush, a native plant which has little red flowered leaves. Decorations range from traditional Victorian images to typical Australian images like kangaroos and koala bears. Santa Claus is often depicted in a swimsuit and arrives on a surfboard or by boat rather than down the chimney!

ACTIVITY

Introduce the following vocabulary:

- shorts • shirt • cap
- sandals • sunglasses
- trousers • coat • boots
- gloves • hat (cap).

Ask your pupils to fold a piece of paper and label the two sides, Santa in Australia and Santa in America. Ask the children to draw pictures of the two Santas and write descriptions of what they are wearing.

Example:

*In Australia
Santa has got
shorts.*

*In America
Santa has got
trousers.*



Christmas in two Lands

*There it is cold, or there is snow,
And holly, fires and mistletoe.
And carols sung out in the street
By children, walking through the sleet.
Church bells break the frozen air
Ringing loudly everywhere.
There is where white winter glory
Comes to tell the Christmas story.*

*Here it is hot, the sun is gold,
And turns tired when day is old.
Christmas carols are sung at night
Somewhere outside, by candlelight.
Church bells ring out in the heat
And call to people in the street.
The Christmas story here is told
In summer, when the sun is gold.*

Joan Mellings

CHRISTMAS Dinner

The traditional English Christmas celebrated today started in Victorian times in the 19th century. The main meal is eaten in the middle of the day or early evening. The table is laid with candles and holly and each person is given a cracker to pull.

Christmas dinner consists of roast turkey, goose or chicken served with vegetables such as roast potatoes and Brussel sprouts. The turkey is usually filled with a tasty stuffing made of breadcrumbs, onions and herbs. No Christmas is complete without the traditional Christmas pudding, which might contain coins or lucky charms for the children. It is made with breadcrumbs, sugar, rich dried fruit such as raisins and sultanas, nuts, spices and suet. When the pudding is placed on the table, brandy is poured over it and it is set alight. In the past, the pudding was prepared

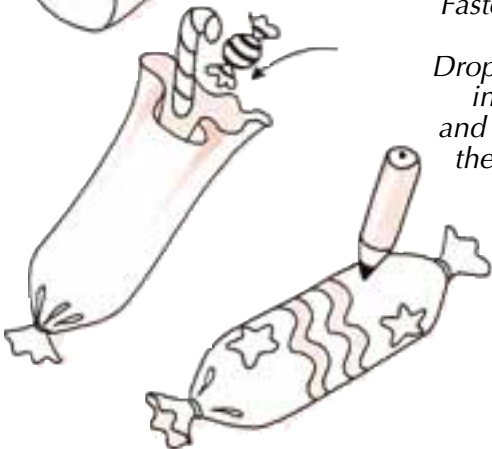


ACTIVITY

PARTY CRACKERS



Cover the card tube
 from a toilet roll
 with crepe paper.
 Leave enough
 at each end
 to make a frill.



Fasten one end
 with wool.
 Drop small gifts
 into the tube
 and then fasten
 the other end.

Decorate each cracker.

many weeks before Christmas and each member of the family made a wish and stirred it. Nowadays, most people buy ready-made puddings from shops and supermarkets.

Recipe for Christmas Pudding

Ingredients

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups chopped raisins | 2/3 cup pitted and chopped dates |
| 1 cup chopped soft dried figs | 1 cup currants |
| 3/4 cup golden raisins | 1/2 cup brandy |
| 8 ounces unsalted butter | 1 cup dark brown sugar |
| grated zest of one lemon | grated zest of 1 orange |
| 4 beaten eggs | 3/4 cup sifted flour |
| 1 cup chopped blanched almonds | 1 teaspoon cinnamon |
| 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg | 1 teaspoon ground allspice |
| 1 1/2 cups fresh white bread crumbs | 1 teaspoon ground ginger |

Instructions

- Grease a 2-quart ceramic mould or casserole.
- Beat the butter and sugar until thick and creamy. Beat in the zests and eggs.
- Fold in the fruit and almonds. Add the flour and spices, then fold in the bread crumbs.
- Spoon the mixture into the prepared mould, press down well and level the surface. Cut a sheet of wax paper 2 inches larger than the top of the mould. Pleat the wax paper twice through the centre to allow for expansion as the pudding rises. Place the paper on top of the pudding and cover it with a twice-pleated double thickness of foil. Tie the foil securely to the edge of the mould with string.
- Place the mould on a rack in a *Bain Marie* or other large covered pot. Pour boiling water into the *Bain Marie* until it is halfway up the side of the mould. Steam for four hours, topping the boiling water to the same level when necessary.
- Remove the mould from the *Bain Marie* and let it cool. Rewrap with fresh wax paper and foil and store in the refrigerator until ready to serve.
- Steam again for two hours before serving.

A Christmas Song WORKSHEET



The twelve days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas, my true love sent to me,
A partridge in a pear tree.

On the second day of Christmas, my true love sent to me,
Two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the third day of Christmas, my true love sent to me,
three French hens, two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me,

Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me,

Five gold rings! Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love sent to me, six geese a-laying, five...

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, seven swans a-swimming, six...

On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, eight maids a-milking, seven...

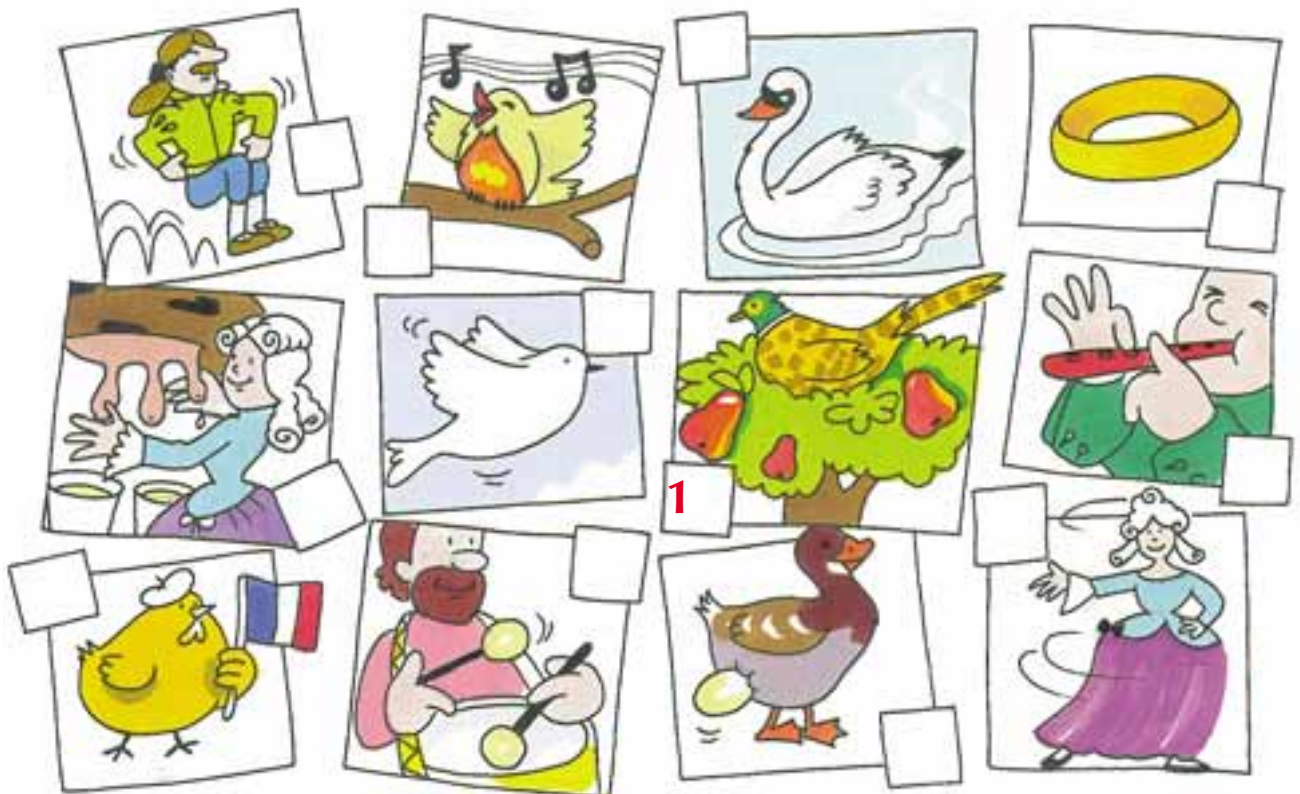
On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, nine ladies dancing, eight...

On the tenth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, ten lords a-leaping, nine...

On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, eleven pipers piping, ten...

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, twelve drummers drumming, eleven...

Ask your pupils
to sing the song
and number the pictures.



Make An Advent Calendar

Count down the days till Christmas!
Get your pupils to put a cotton ball over a number each day.

Did you know...?



Candy canes are red and white peppermint treats eaten at Christmas.

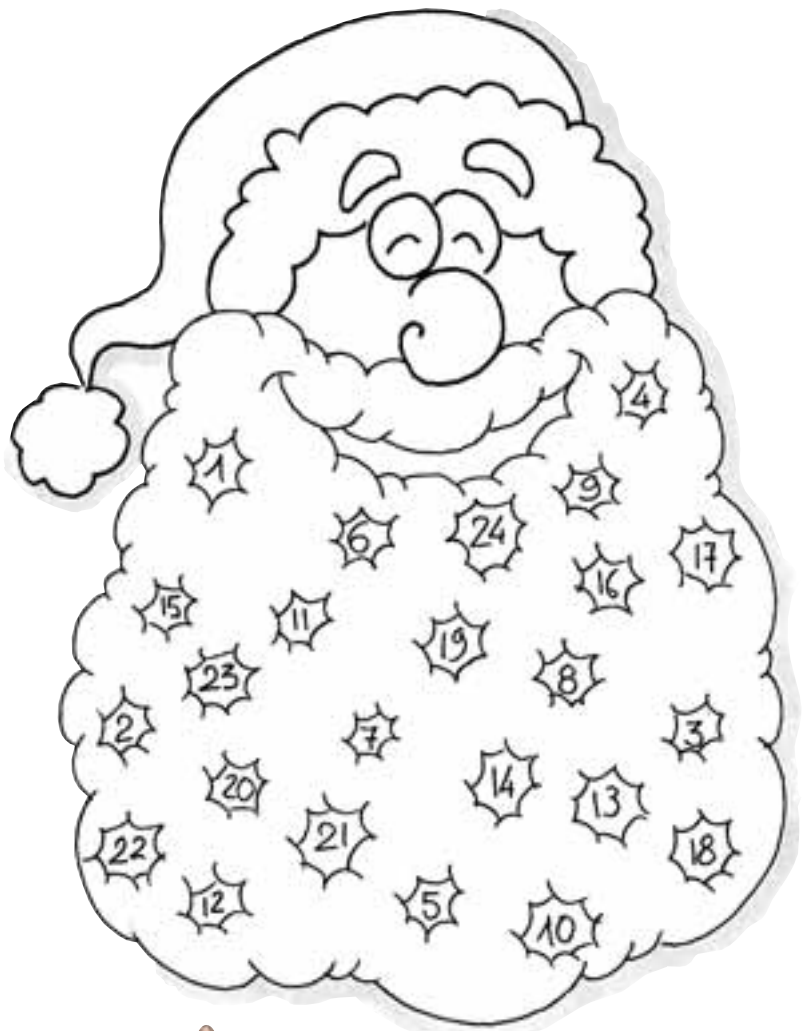


The Yule log has to burn through all the twelve days of Christmas.

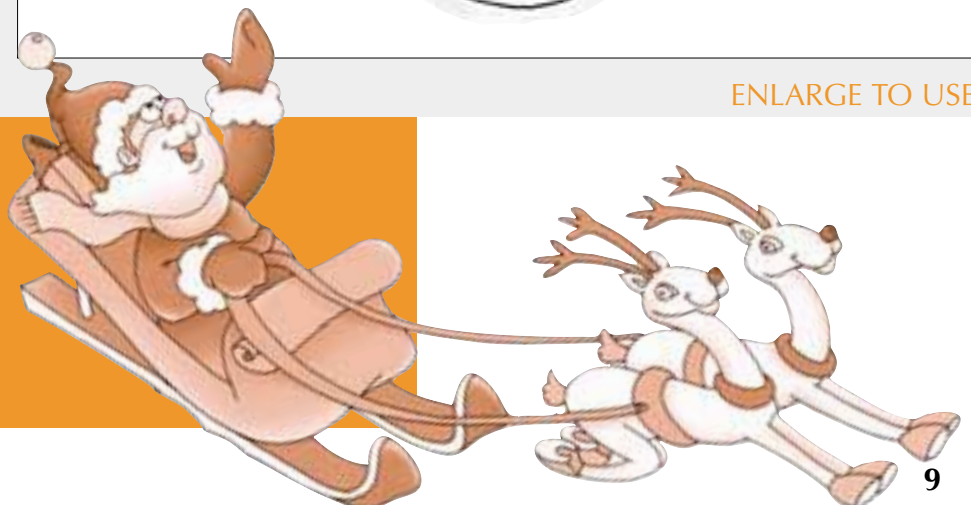


It is a custom to kiss under the mistletoe.

Merry CHRISTMAS



ENLARGE TO USE





SANTA CLAUS is

Christmas would not be Christmas without Santa Claus. On Christmas Eve children around the world anxiously wait for the arrival of the white-bearded jolly old man also known as Father Christmas, Der Weihnachtsmann or Père Noël.

It all started long ago, in a land which is now called Turkey. Bishop Nicholas was a very wealthy and generous man who loved to make children happy. He often gave joy to poor children by throwing gifts in through their windows. It is for this reason that St Nicholas became the patron saint of children.

The stories about St Nicholas made their way to the United States with the Dutch immigrants who started calling him Santa Claus. This Dutch-American Saint Nick achieved his fully Americanised form in 1823 in the poem, "A Visit from Saint Nicholas", more commonly known as "The Night Before Christmas" by writer Clement Clarke Moore. Moore included the names of the reindeer in his poem. Nowadays, every American child knows that the eight reindeer are Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen, thanks also to television and the movie industry.



ACTIVITIES

Photocopy this picture of Santa Claus with his eight reindeer. Ask the children to copy the names of the reindeer on the bottom of the sheet.

Merry Christmas



The eight reindeer are:

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 |
| 3 | 7 |
| 4 | 8 |

ENLARGE TO USE

ACTIVITIES

Ask your pupils to colour and cut out this door hanger which they can hang on their doors to welcome Santa on Christmas Eve.



ENLARGE TO USE

coming to town

Children all over the world send letters to Santa Claus because they believe that he arrives on Christmas Eve, on a sleigh pulled by eight reindeer. He slides down the chimney or comes in through the window and leaves gifts under the tree and in the socks that children have put on the end of their beds. Most children leave a plate of biscuits and a glass of milk for busy old Santa Claus. Then off he goes... back home. Where is home? The North Pole of course!



Dear Santa,

My name is

My surname is

I live in

I am a good

For Christmas I want a

..... and a

.....

Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year



Teach your pupils this Santa Claus song!

Where is Santa Claus? Where is Santa Claus?

one child pretends to look for Santa

Here I am! Here I am!

one child pretending to be Santa with hands on belly answers

Merry Christmas (child's name)
Merry Christmas (child's name)

child pretending to be Santa answers and shakes hands with child named

Ho! Ho! Ho! Ho! Ho! Ho!

child pretending to be Santa holds his belly and laughs

(Sing it to the tune of "Are you sleeping?")



A CHRISTMAS Crossword Puzzle

ACTIVITY

Once the children have finished the crossword puzzle do a colour dictation using the objects already labelled or allow the children to colour the picture as they please.

Colours that can be dictated:

1 is brown
2 is green
3 is yellow
4 is red and white
5 is violet
6 is green

7 is red, white and black
8 is white and green
9 is brown
10 is any colour
11 is red and white
12 is any colour

Here is the complete text of Clement Clarke Moore's poem

The Night before CHRISTMAS

by Clement Clarke Moore

'Twas the night before Christmas,
 when all through the house
 Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
 The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
 In hopes that St Nicholas soon would be there.
 The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
 While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.
 And mamma in her 'kerchief', and I in my cap,
 Had just settled down for a long winter's nap.
 When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
 I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
 Away to the window I flew like a flash,
 Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
 The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
 Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below.
 When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
 But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer.
 With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
 I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
 More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
 And he whistled and shouted and called
 them by name.
 "Now **Dasher**! Now **Dancer**! Now **Prancer** and **Vixen**!
 On **Comet**! On **Cupid**! On **Donder** and **Blitzen**!
 To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall!
 Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!
 As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
 When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
 So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
 With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too.
 And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
 The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

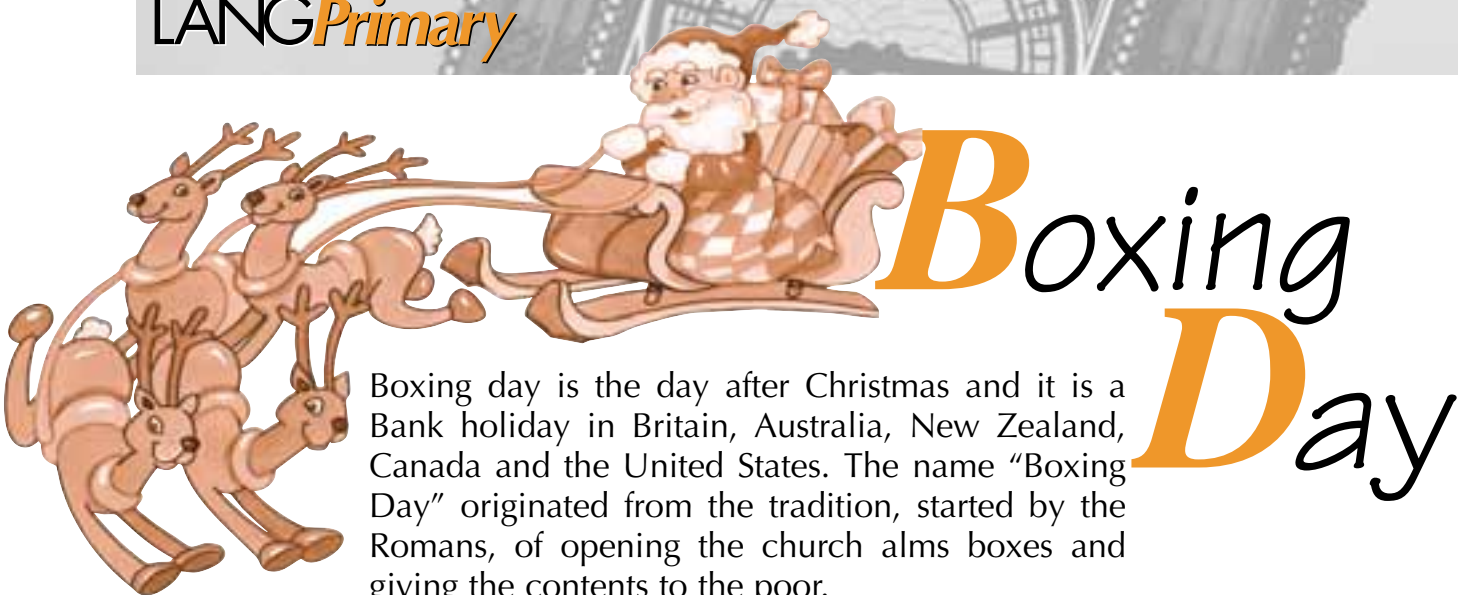
As I drew in my hand, and was turning around,
 Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
 He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
 And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes
 and soot.

A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
 And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
 His eyes – how they twinkled! His dimples
 how merry!

His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry
 His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
 And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.
 The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
 And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
 He had a broad face and a little round belly,
 That shook, when he laughed like a bowlful of jelly.
 He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
 And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.
 A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
 Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
 He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
 And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk.
 And laying his finger aside of his nose,
 And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.
 He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
 And away they all flew like the down of a thistle,
 But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,



"Happy Christmas
 To All,
 And To All
 A Good-Night."



Boxing day is the day after Christmas and it is a Bank holiday in Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. The name "Boxing Day" originated from the tradition, started by the Romans, of opening the church alms boxes and giving the contents to the poor.

In 19th century England, it was a custom to give boxes filled with food or money or both to family, servants and suppliers on 26th December. Long before then, it was common to give food, money or clothing to poor people on Boxing Day or St. Stephen's Day as it was then called.

Today families usually spend the day at home relaxing or at gatherings with friends.



New Year's in Scotland Eve

In Scotland, the New Year celebrations are as important as those for Christmas. New Year's Eve is called Hogmanay and it is celebrated with bonfires and feasts. The word Hogmanay derives from a kind of oat cake that was traditionally given to children on New Year's Eve. It is believed that the first person, "first-footer", to enter a house after midnight brings good luck to the people living in the house; but only if he is a dark-haired, good-looking stranger carrying the traditional gifts of coal, bread, a pinch of salt and an evergreen twig. This tradition is known as "first-footing".



Auld Lang Syne is the most popular New Year's song. It is sung at midnight!



TEST your knowledge

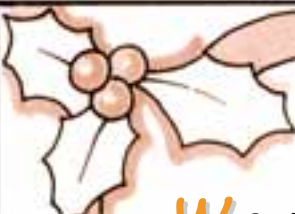
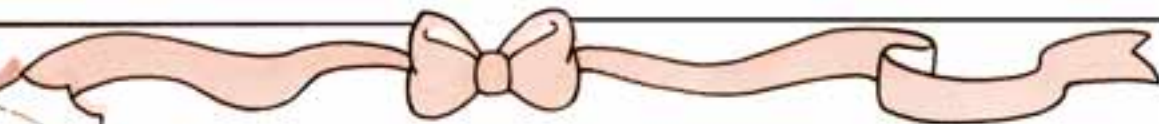
Here is how you say Merry Christmas in 14 different languages. Match the languages to the countries.

1	Joyeux Noël	<input type="checkbox"/>	Germany
2	Fröhliche Weihnachten	<input type="checkbox"/>	Korea
3	Nodlaig Shona Dhuit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wales
4	Nadloig Llawen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Japan
5	Feliz Natal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Portugal
6	God Jul	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spain
7	Feliz Navidad	<input type="checkbox"/>	France
8	Z Rizdvom Khrystovym	<input type="checkbox"/>	Norway
9	Sung Tan Chuk Ha	<input type="checkbox"/>	China (Cantonese)
10	Kurisumasu Omedeto	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland
11	Hyvaa Joulua	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greece
12	Kala Christouyenna	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ukraine
13	Gloedelig Jul	<input type="checkbox"/>	Finland
14	Saint Dan Fai Lok	<input type="checkbox"/>	Denmark



Teach your pupils this song to practice the greeting "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year".

ANSWERS: 1-France, 2-Germany, 3-Ireland, 4-Wales, 5-Portugal, 6-Norway, 7-Spain, 8-Ukraine, 9-Korea, 10-Japan, 11-Finland, 12-Greece, 13-Denmark, 14-China






We wish you a Merry Christmas.

We wish you a Merry Christmas.

We wish you a Merry Christmas.

And a Happy New Year.

@TOUR of Santa's Secret Village

Dede Teeler*

One lovely thing about the Internet is its rich cultural content, easily accessible to all. This Christmas, why not use this multimedia tool to explore holiday celebrations around the world? In this issue we take a tour of the virtual North Pole called Santa's Secret Village.



Santa's Secret Village is full of original art, animation and stories. Every image was hand drawn, scanned, and painted prior to being added to one of our pages. The stories are all original works commissioned by northpole.com and each has a cheerful message. We hope you and your children enjoy the site as much as we enjoyed creating it for you.

This enchanting, animated Web site is based on the story of Santa Claus, who lives at the North Pole with his wife, his crew of hardworking elves and his team of flying reindeer. Each house in the village is full of stories and holiday activities of all kinds. You can see a list of all the different activities available by clicking on the words Site Overview. Or click on a house in the picture to open the introduction to that section of the village.



Here is a view of Santa's Den. A short text tells you about the picture. Move your mouse over the picture to find the hidden stories and other activities. Here in Santa's Den there are also direct links to online shops where you can buy holiday books, videos and music. At the music shop it is even possible to listen to previews of the Christmas songs right on your computer.



★
★
★
★
★
★
★



Dede Teeler is a freelance teacher, teacher trainer and materials writer working in Europe since 1988. She is author of *How to Use the Internet in ELT* (Longman 1999).



Santa's Personalized Stories

If you would like to have one of Santa's stories personalized for you, select one of them and enter your personal information. Then click "Read the Story!"

☐ Elf
☐ Christmas Elf
☐ North Pole Christmas Party

Your First Name: _____
 Your Home Town: _____
 Your Age: _____
 Your Favorite Hobby (basketball, chess, etc.): _____
 Your Favorite Toy: _____
 Your Best Friend's First Name: _____
 Your Favorite Toy (gun, money, ice cream, etc.): _____

Privacy note: None of your information is saved.

Hi! My name, Elf again, I see you're ready to send a letter to Santa. Just type in your name and a secret password, answer a couple of questions and click on the top you would like the most for Christmas. You can even write a special message to Santa. Check with your parents first to make sure it's OK.

Tell Santa your full name: _____
 Make up a secret password: _____
 If you have an e-mail address, type it below: _____
 (Don't worry, Santa keeps your e-mail address secret)

Tell Santa how old you are: ☐ Boy ☐ Girl
 How old are you? ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10
 Have you been naughty or nice? ☐ Naughtier ☐ Nice
 Do you have a chimney? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Send the letter below: click the one you like the most for Christmas

Hi! If you already sent a letter to Santa this is where you pick up his return letter to you.

Just type in your name and your secret password below then click on the mailbox.

First Name: _____
 Password: _____



This page is from the story The Santa's Secret Village Game. As in most storytelling, various forms of the past tense are used. You may have to simplify the English used in the stories for your class at first. Each picture in the story can be printed out in black and white for your children to colour. Then they can use the pictures to retell the story in their own words. To get the picture, just click the Tab key on your keyboard once, then click Enter. The colouring page should appear on your screen, and you can print it out. This tip works for most of the pictures on the site.

Not only can your children read stories, but with the wonder of the Internet they can also write professional looking Christmas stories about themselves and their friends. Here is

Christmas Web sites for Children

Christmas Around the World: Yahoo!igans guide to Christmas everywhere
http://www.yahoo!igans.com/School/Bell/Social_Studies/Religion/Christianity/Christmas/Christmas_Around_the_World/

Tate Advent Calendars: Beautifully illustrated, with daily story page in English, Italian & French
<http://www.advent-calendars.com/>

The Santa Tracker: Follow Santa all year, and listen to him live as he departs on Christmas Eve
<http://www.santatracker.com/>

The Singing Christmas Tree: A virtual jukebox of modern carols with lyrics
<http://www.wilstar.net/xmasjuke.htm>

Christmas Down Under: Australian children talk about Christmas traditions
<http://www.ozkidz.gil.com.au/Christmas/traditions.html>

The Virtual Christmas Tree Farm: Lesson plans for this Canadian site about how trees are grown
<http://www.chrismastrees.on.ca/ednet/edmain.html>

an example from Santa's Personalized Stories. Just fill in the blanks with a few names and objects, click on the button and then print out your tale to share with the class. There is a kitchen where you can share holiday recipes, and the lovely Festival of Trees about celebrations in different parts of the U.S. But the best feature of all is perhaps Santa's Mailroom, where you can correspond with Santa all year round. Before Christmas, you can send in your wish list, with a special message for Santa Claus. One of his elves replies immediately, and then within a few hours you have a personal answer from Santa himself.

The English World WORKSHEET

Photocopy these pictures to make flashcards which can be used to introduce Christmas vocabulary.



Merry Christmas

Use the pictures to make Christmas mobiles!



CLASS AND TEACHER PROJECTS

Another opportunity for both teachers and students to exchange projects for books.



CLASS PROJECT - December issue

The theme of the project for your children to organise as a class or in smaller groups is:

Holidays to Remember

Ask your children to make posters describing their favourite summer or winter holidays. Get them to draw maps and include photographs/drawings. They should write a short text about their holidays as well as sentences describing the photographs/drawings. The project should include at least six posters.

When the project is complete, please sign it as work produced by your class (include the number of students who have contributed) and send to:

PBM spa
LANG Primary Student Project,
Corso Trapani 16,
10139 Torino

LANG Edizioni will send a class set of **Primary Readers** to the classes that present the most interesting projects.



TEACHER PROJECT - December issue

Many teachers produce their own material for teaching and consolidation tasks. We would like to encourage you to put together one of the lesson plans you have prepared for your children and send it to us.

Describe a lesson when you are teaching **prepositions of place**. Include a description of:

- how you introduce prepositions
- the practice materials you use
- the opportunities you give your children to use the prepositions you teach to describe the position of things in their world.

When the project is complete, please sign it as work produced by yourself and send to:

PBM spa
LANG Primary Teacher Project,
Corso Trapani 16,
10139 Torino

LANG Edizioni will send a copy of **DAI** (dizionario di apprendimento della lingua inglese) or **FRIENDLY** Italiano-Inglese to all teachers who present a project following the instructions.



All projects should be received by 31.03.2001

We may publish extracts from some of the projects in future issues of LANG Primary.

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... and don't forget your resolutions!

Our New Year Resolutions are to continue giving teachers useful English language teaching materials and to publish **LANG Primary** on time, as we have been able to do during this first year.

We hope that one of your resolutions will be to ask your children to take part in the class projects we suggest in each issue. You will get a lot of fun out of organising them and your children will not only have a sense of purpose when they are preparing materials in English but also have the possibility of receiving readers for their efforts.

We would ask all our readers to fill in the coupon at the foot of this page and return it to us. Your name will be put on our mailing list and you will receive the four issues we plan in 2001 as soon as they are printed. You can, of course, photocopy the coupon and give it to other teachers of English who have not seen the magazine.

The new LANG Edizioni 2001 ELT catalogue will be sent to you together with the March issue of **LANG Primary**. There are a lot of new publications, and surprises, for you and your students, from special books for the Primary student on *civiltà* to teacher training videos for the teacher. It's certainly well worth waiting for!

The publisher would like to thank northpole.com, LLC for their permission to reproduce images.

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4 Please send me the four issues of LANG Primary in 2001

Name _____ home address _____

favourite pages
in this issue

_____ city _____ CAP _____

School name and address _____

_____ city _____ CAP _____

Topics I would like to read about _____

Course book used _____

Supplementary materials used _____

I would like a LANG agent to visit me at school Yes ☐ No ☐

Ai sensi della Legge 675/96, con la presente vi autorizzo esplicitamente al trattamento dei miei dati personali unicamente ai fini amministrativi per l'invio di materiali di **Lang Edizioni** al mio indirizzo.

Post or fax to: PBM spa - **LANG Primary** – Corso Trapani 16 – 10139 Torino – Fax 011 757 383