

Reading Text

St. Nicholas Day Traditions of Celebration

Every year **on December 6th**, people in many European countries celebrate St. Nicholas Day. The holiday is dedicated to Saint Nicholas of Myra, a kind and generous bishop who lived in the 4th century. He became famous for helping the poor, **protecting children, and performing miracles**.

According to legend, St. Nicholas secretly left **gold coins for people in need**. This is how the tradition of **gift-giving** began. Today, children clean their shoes or hang stockings by the window or fireplace on the evening of December 5th. During the night, St. Nicholas visits and fills them with **sweets, chocolate coins, and small presents** — but only for those who behaved well during the year!

In Ukraine, children also look forward to Saint Mykolai's Day. Parents often **hide gifts under the pillow**, and in schools, pupils prepare songs, poems, and performances about kindness and generosity. The holiday reminds everyone to be helpful and caring towards others.

In some other countries, like Germany, Poland, and the Netherlands, people celebrate with **parades, fairs, and festive food**. St. Nicholas sometimes arrives on a white horse or in a boat, accompanied by helpers who check if children were good or naughty.

Although every country has its own traditions, the message of St. Nicholas Day is the same everywhere — **to share joy, kindness, and love**.

Task 1. True or False

St. Nicholas Day is celebrated on December 5th. _____

St. Nicholas was known for his generosity. _____

Children receive presents only if they behave well. _____

In Ukraine, gifts are usually placed in stockings. _____

The message of the holiday is about kindness and love. _____

Task 2. Match the countries with their customs

Country	Custom
Ukraine	a) Children leave shoes for St. Nicholas to fill
Germany	b) Gifts are hidden under the pillow
The Netherlands	c) St. Nicholas comes by boat

Task 3. Vocabulary in Context

Choose the correct word from the list:

(generous, miracle, stockings, behaviour, kindness)

St. Nicholas was known for his _____ heart.

Children hang _____ by the fireplace.

He was famous for doing a _____ or two.

Parents reward good _____ with sweets.

The holiday reminds everyone about _____.

MATCH:



Fruit jellies
Chocolate coins
Candy canes
Lollipops
Gingerbread cookies
Chocolate Santas
Dried fruits
Chocolate bars
Cookies
Cupcakes

Fill St. Nicholas's Bag

stone



puzzle



toilet paper



dirty socks



chocolate coins



sweets



garlic



colouring book



gingerbread



lollipop



toy bear



empty candy wrapper



onion



Write a Letter to St. Nicholas

Task:

Write a friendly letter to St. Nicholas. Tell him about your year, your good deeds, and what you wish for this Christmas season.



Dear St. Nicholas,

I hope you are doing well and getting ready for your long trip! This year I have been _____.

I helped _____ and was kind to _____.

I tried to do my best at school and at home.

For St. Nicholas Day, I would be happy to find _____ in my stocking.

I also wish for _____ for my family and friends.

Thank you for bringing joy and kindness every year.

I promise to _____ next year.

With love,

_____ (your name)

QUIZLET





C A N D Y C A N E S L K L H I C L G
 A M O M J Y G N W T C Y B I S H O P
 N O K R A M R R H O E A B Z N O E S
 D H H O S W W P R C V G O F I C P Q
 Y B D R O S P Z Y K P I J C V O O S
 W E W L D Y Y D Q I Y I Z W P L D R
 R D L H W U S K S N A M R I K A V O
 A I Q M M U Z U D G T C L H O T N C
 P U N I S H M E N T I L R G O E P U
 P P Y K A L M L P L O X Q J R C M P
 E T C I S W Z U L L K I Y G L O V C
 R O T T P X Y Z V S F Z O J M I S A
 S R F U E D C C T I S W O X B N X K
 I I Y M H L T E K E L W Q A W S Q E
 G I N G E R B R E A D P B J H Z P S



Lollipops

Gingerbread

cupcakes

socks

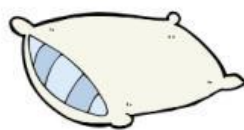


Candycanes

Bishop

Punishment

Chocolatecoins



Stocking

pillow

gift

candywrapper