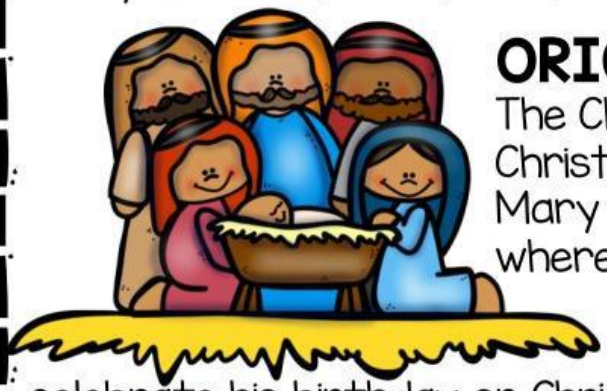
CHRISTMAS



Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ for **Christians**. People attend church, give gifts, and sing carols to celebrate. People spend time with their family and friends.

WHO CELEBRATES?

People all over the world celebrate Christmas. There are many different countries that practice similar Christmas traditions.



ORIGIN

The Christian **Bible** tells the story of Christmas. It takes place 2,000 years ago. Mary and Joseph traveled to **Bethlehem**, where Mary gave birth to Jesus. Christians believe Jesus is the **Messiah**, a king sent by God to save his people. They celebrate his birthday on Christmas. The holiday later mixed with other winter **festivals** to form today's Christmas.

DATES

Most people celebrate **Christmas Eve** on December 24. Christmas is celebrated the next day on December 25. Many celebrate 12 days of Christmas. Some Christians celebrate the twelfth day of the Christmas season on **Epiphany** on January 6th. Some Christians give and receive gifts on this day too.



TRADITIONS

Many Christians decorate with **nativity scenes** that show the Christmas story. The figures include Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. Many people decorate **evergreen trees** for Christmas. They stand for life in the dead of the winter since they stay green all year. Wreaths, mistletoes, and holly are also used to decorate. Friends and family give **presents** at Christmas. This tradition honors the story of the three wise men that brought Jesus gifts when he was born. Children may also get gifts from **Santa Claus**, a gift giver that began as the Christian saint, **Nicholas**. Many people sing songs called **carols** at Christmas too. Families and friends often gather for large meals at Christmas with different foods.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Name _____

CHRISTMAS



IDENTIFY: Use the word bank to identify each description.

presents	**carols**	**evergreen**	**Santa Claus**
Epiphany	**Christians**	**nativity**	**Bethlehem**

	1. Songs sang by people at Christmas
	2. People who believe in Jesus and the Bible
	3. Trees often decorated at Christmas
	4. Often exchanged by friends and family
	5. City where Jesus was thought to be born
	6. These scenes show the Christmas story
	7. Gift giver based on Saint Nicholas
	8. Celebrated on January 6th

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the best answer.

9. What is the **main** reason evergreen trees are decorated at Christmas?
A. They are very pretty.
B. They stand for life in the dead of winter.
C. They are easy to decorate.

10. Which holiday is celebrated on **December 24th**?
A. Christmas Eve
B. Christmas Day
C. The Epiphany

11. What does Christmas **honor**?
A. The death of Jesus
B. The raising of Jesus from the dead
C. The birth of Jesus



LIVEWORKSHEETS