



Christmas
AROUND
THE
World

In the United States, we have many traditions to celebrate Christmas, such as hanging stockings, baking cookies, and decorating trees. But how do children around the world celebrate Christmas? Discover similarities and differences among the traditions of other countries by going to the website: www.whychristmas.com/cultures. Here you can read about the countries below (and many more!) to learn new and interesting Christmas facts. Use the website to help fill in the blanks to complete the sentences for each country. Maybe your family will even adopt a new tradition this year!



United States

English:
Merry Christmas!

In Hawaii, Santa is called _____.
_____ is a traditional Christmas drink in the USA.



Mexico

Spanish:
Feliz Navidad!

Nativity scenes, known as the _____, are very popular in Mexico and is the main/most important decoration. It's traditional to eat a special cake called _____ on Epiphany.



India

Hindi:
Śubh krisamas!
(शुभ क्रिसमस)

_____ is a very important service for Christians in India, especially Catholics. Instead of traditional Christmas trees, a _____ or _____ tree is decorated.



Haiti

Creole/Haitian:
Jwaye Nowe!

On Christmas Eve, children place their _____ filled with straw under the tree on the porch. After Midnight Mass, people come home and eat the main meal, called _____.



Ethiopia

Amharic:
Melikam Gena!
(መልአካም ገና!)

Ethiopia celebrates Christmas on _____, not December 25th. It's a tradition that one of the _____ who visited Jesus came from Ethiopia.



Philippines

Tagalog:
Maligayang Pasko!

The most popular Christmas decoration in the Philippines is the _____, which represents the star that guided the Wise Men. One very special person who helps people celebrate Christmas is _____.



New Zealand

Maori:
Meri Kirihimete!

Christmas comes in the middle of the _____ holidays! People like to spend time at the beach and camping. One popular present for Christmas are _____.



Kenya

Swahili/Kiswahili:
Heri ya Krismasi!

Christmas might be the only time families see each other all year. For a Christmas tree, some people will have a _____ tree. Popular Christmas foods include a barbeque and the big meal is called _____.



Finland

Finnish:
Hyvää joulua!

In Finland, Santa might also be known as _____, which means Christmas Goat. _____ are given their own Christmas, with farmers hanging wheat, nuts, and suet on trees.



Argentina

Spanish:
Feliz Navidad!

A Christmas Eve night tradition is _____, paper decorations with a light inside that float into the sky. Some people like to put _____ on their Christmas tree to represent snow.

Select a country of your choice, or list the traditions of your culture and/or family:

Country:

How you say
Merry Christmas: