

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!

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Happy S.C.I.E.N.C.E.net



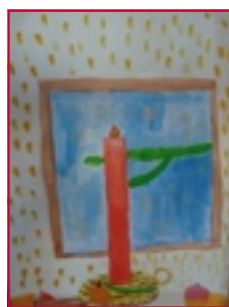
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Christmas Decorations

All excited to indulge yourself in the festive spirit of Christmas? 25th December - the day marked as Christmas all over the globe, is a day of utmost fun and frolic, strengthening the bondage with closed ones, exchanging gifts and decorating the house with the varied Christmas décor items. One can really get creative with Christmas decorations, following the age-old tradition as well. Everybody wants to feel the warmth of the celebration and the indulgence reaches its peak a week before the actual celebration starts. It gives you immense pleasure when you involve all your near and dear ones in the process of decorating the house during Christmas.

To get the best result out of Christmas decorations, try to remain simple in whatever you choose as Christmas décor items. Simple homemade Christmas



decorations are still considered to be the best of the lot. A personalized touch can always be given to the decorating items that are brought from the market. Put in your best efforts and

it shall surely be appreciated and pleasing to everyone's eyes. As previously stated, try to remain soft and subtle with the colors and elements that are used for the decoration of Christmas. The basic aim for this celebration around this time of the year are joy and prosperity. Thus, conveying the same feeling to the near and dear ones and also to the guests is absolutely important. Make sure that Christmas celebrations do turn out to be the best this year by following the few useful Christmas decoration tips. Remember to stick to original Christmas decoration ideas and not imitate others.

The traditional Christmas decorations colors



The traditional Christmas decorations colors are red and green. But it doesn't imply that you have to stick on to these two colors. Christmas is the bright-

est time of the year so you can use all the bright colors from the color palette. Be creative enough to make bows from ribbons of various bright colors and place them all

across the walls, staircase and windows. Put in a special festive feeling in every corner of the house. Make sure that every corner of the house is painted with Christmas Colors.



Special points of interest:

- Typical decorations
- Interesting old Christmas traditions
- Beautiful drawings and decorations from partners schools

Christmas in Italy (Old traditions)

Christmas season in Italy is traditionally celebrated December 24-January 6, or Christmas Eve through Epiphany. This follows the pagan season of celebrations that started with Saturnalia, a winter solstice festival, and ended with the Roman New Year, the Calends. However there are lots of Christmas things to see during December prior to Christmas, many starting on December 8, the Feast Day of the Immacu-

late Conception.

Italian Christmas Traditions



Although Babbo Natale (Father Christmas) and giving presents on Christmas are becoming more common, the main day for gift giving is Epiphany, the 12th day of Christmas when the three

Wise Men gave Baby Jesus their gifts. In Italy, presents are brought

by La Befana, who arrives in the night to fill children's stockings.



Christmas in Florence

Christmas Decorations in Primary School Vittorio Veneto, Florence



Christmas in Bulgaria (Old traditions)

In Bulgaria, Christmas Eve is equivalent to Christmas itself. On this day, traditionally a special festive dinner is prepared, which consists of at least 12 dishes to represent twelve months of the year. These dishes do not have any meat content. The ingredients consist of beans, different kinds of nuts, dried plums, cakes and a traditional cake called Banitzza. This is the time when there is a family gathering of all the family members. During the dinner, everybody

eats on straw and it is necessary that all members get off the table at the same time. In the past, there was a tradition of boys and unmarried young men visiting all the houses of the neighborhood. They used to sing Christmas songs that wish good wealth and health for hosts and received treats in return such as money or food. They used to carry long sticks called 'Rkoledaris', on which

round bread with holes known as 'kravai' were stuck. There were family gatherings and people used to eat seven or twelve course meatless meals, sitting on the ground or straw. Christmas food included wine and dishes such as Rakia and Sarmy. The main dish



was a huge round bread on which things that indicated wealth like a house and cattle were carved.

Christmas Decorations in Foreign Language School, Pleven



Christmas in Poland (Old traditions)

For Poles, Christmas Eve is a time of family gathering and reconciliation. It's also a night of magic: Animals are said to talk in a human voice and people have the power to tell the future. The belief was born with our ancestors who claimed that Dec. 24 was a day to mark the beginning of a new era. It was bolstered by sayings such as,

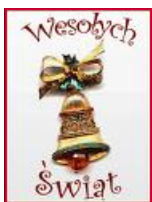


"As goes Christmas Eve, goes the year." Hoping for a good 12 months, everyone was polite and generous to one another and forgave past grievances. At the Christmas Eve supper, each dish had to be sampled, and a traditional meal would consist of 12 dishes. The more you ate, the more pleasure would await you in the

future. The more daring diners would pull out blades of straw from underneath the table cloth. A green one foretold marriage; a withered one-waiting; a yellow one-spinsterhood; a very short one-an early grave.



Christmas Decorations in ZESPÓŁ SZKOLNO - PRZEDSZKOLNY nr 1, Tarnowskie Góry



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**Merry Christmas
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Happy New Year!**

Christmas in Romania (Old traditions)



Carols form an important part of the Romanian folklore. Romanian carols are not simple songs (a sort of invocation in verse sung by children and lads, on the evening of Winters Holidays) with religious origin, but wide windows through which we are allowed once in a year to go by the immaculate snow-towards

evergreen Heaven and to eye-touch God at least for an instant, in order to give us the power to surpass the life's obstacles. Carols put people in the mood for a perfect communion with the simple and healing greatness of Jesus' Birth. The carol singers walk in the streets of the villages and towns holding in their hands a star made of board and paper with biblical scenes painted in water colors and

"Do you receive the pretty star,
Pretty and so very bright?
It Haseko we did in the sky
Just like God thought it would be right,

Stand it could be seen on high,
Just like we did in the sky"



Christmas Decorations in GR DINI A CU PROGRAM PRELUNGI T NR.56 ORADEA

