

Christmas Teaching notes

Aims

- To present Christmas vocabulary and to practise the present simple and adverbs of frequency
- To encourage creativity and to stimulate students' interest in Christmas celebrations in Britain

Vocabulary and reading

Exercise 1

- Ask what students know about Christmas in Britain. Use the picture to pre-teach the Christmas vocabulary.
- Students find the words in the Christmas tree.

Answers

Christmas tree, carol, cracker, turkey, card, present, pudding, holly, stocking (*diagonally, right-hand side*)

Exercise 2

- Pre-teach *hang up* and *Father Christmas*.
- Students read the text and answer the question. Explain that the Christmas midday meal is often known as *Christmas dinner* even though it is eaten at lunchtime.

Answer

He usually plays games or watches a film on TV.

Exercise 3

- Students answer the questions.

Answers

- 1 in the living room
- 2 sing carols
- 3 her stocking
- 4 his grandparents
- 5 Christmas pudding or ice cream

Exercise 4

Answers

	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
When?	24 th December	25 th December
Activities?	decorate the house with holly, go to a party, go to church and sing carols, hang up stockings	open presents and have breakfast, have Christmas dinner, pull crackers, play games, watch TV

Project: A Christmas card

Class organization

- For this project, students work on their own.

What do you need?

- A piece of card for each student; pencils, crayons or felt-tip pens; access to the Internet or a library; craft materials, e.g. coloured paper, glitter, glue, etc.

Exercise 1

- Talk about the picture on the front of the card. Students answer the questions.

Answers

- 1 (Naomi's) Mum and Dad
- 2 Naomi

Exercise 2

- Students read the text and answer the questions.

Answers

- 1 Father Christmas / the patron saint of children
- 2 the North Pole
- 3 the chimney

Exercise 3

- Students choose a symbol. They can work on their own or in small groups to find information on the Internet or in the library. This could be done as homework.

Exercise 4

- Students write a short text about their symbol, like the one in exercise 2.

Exercises 5–6

- Give students the coloured paper, card, glitter, etc. to make their cards. Ask students to use one or more Christmas symbols in their card design. Ask them to write a message like Naomi's.

Extra activities

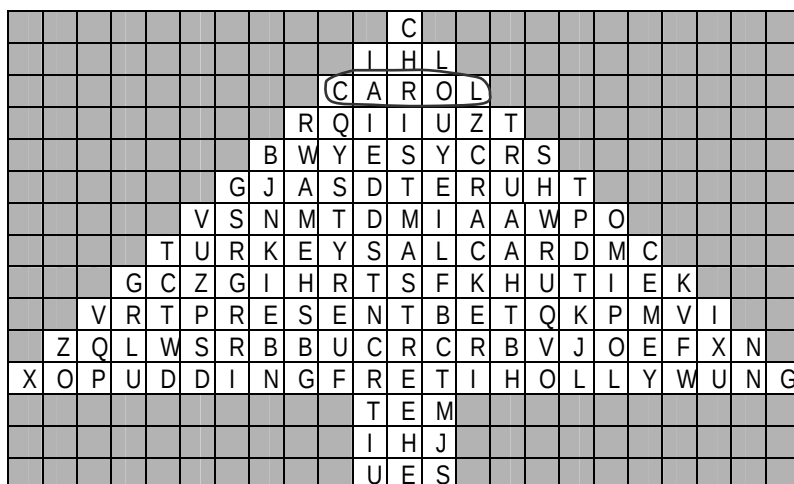
- Students can make more cards for their friends and display them around the classroom.
- Make Christmas decorations to display in school.



Christmas

Vocabulary and reading

1 Find eight more Christmas words in the Christmas tree.



2 Read about Simon. What does he usually do after Christmas dinner?



3 Read the text again. Answer the questions.

What do the family decorate the house with?

holly

1 Where is the Christmas tree in Simon's house?

2 What do the family do in church?

3 What does Alice hang up on Christmas Eve?

4 Who arrives for dinner?

5 What do they eat for dessert?

Christmas Eve is on 24th December. We haven't got school on that day. I spend the day with my family. We usually decorate the house with holly. There's always a Christmas tree in the living room. Sometimes we go to a party with friends or neighbours. In the evenings we go to church and we sing carols. Before bed, my little sister, Alice, hangs up her stocking. Father Christmas brings her presents in the night.

On Christmas Day, 25th December, there are always lots of presents under the Christmas tree. We open our presents and have breakfast. Later, our grandparents arrive and we have Christmas dinner. We always have roast turkey with potatoes and vegetables. And we pull crackers – they bang! For dessert we usually have Christmas pudding. I don't like it – I have ice cream! In the afternoon we usually play games or watch a film on TV.

4 Complete the chart about Christmas.

	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
When?	<u>24th December</u>	
Activities?		

Christmas

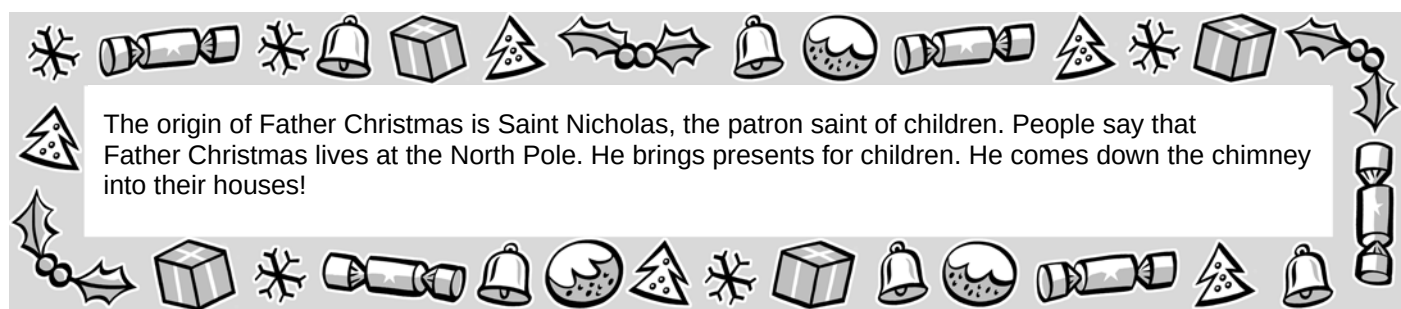
Project: A Christmas card

1 Look at the Christmas card. Answer the questions.

- 1 Who is it to?
- 2 Who is it from?



2 Read about Father Christmas. Answer the questions.



The origin of Father Christmas is Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of children. People say that Father Christmas lives at the North Pole. He brings presents for children. He comes down the chimney into their houses!

- 1 Who is Saint Nicholas?
- 2 Where does Father Christmas live?
- 3 How does he come into children's houses?

3 Choose a traditional Christmas symbol. Find information about it.

4 Write about your symbol.

My symbol ...

5 Make a Christmas card. Decorate it with your traditional Christmas symbol.

6 Write a message in your card.