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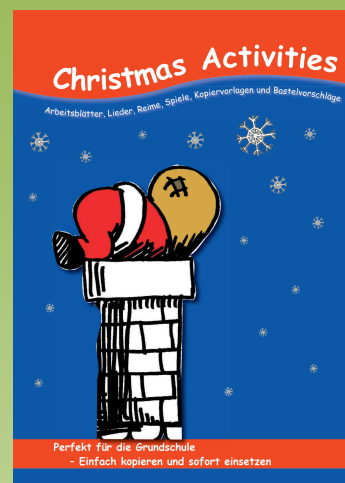
Unterrichtsmaterialien in digitaler und in gedruckter Form

Auszug aus:

Christmas Activities - kopieren und sofort einsetzen!

Das komplette Material finden Sie hier:

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Handbuch „Christmas Activities“

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Christmas around the World

Christmas in Great Britain

In English speaking countries, children get their presents on the 25th of December. Santa comes at night when everyone is asleep. Santas reindeer can fly and take him from house to house. They land on the roofs of the houses and then Santa climbs down the chimney to leave the presents under the Christmas tree.

Children write their letters to Father Christmas and then throw them into the fireplace so they will float up the chimney and fly to the North Pole. If the lists catch fire first, they have to rewrite them.

In the morning of Christmas Day (25th December), children usually get up very early to unwrap their presents. Then they have plenty of time to play with their new toys. The houses are decorated with balloons, ribbons, flowers and green plants as well as Christmas trees. The tradition of hanging mistletoe began in Britain. People love sending and receiving Christmas cards. They put their cards on the mantelpiece.

English people love their Christmas carols. Carols are sung enthusiastically in churches before Christmas and carol concerts are very popular. Children walk from door to door and sing their songs.

Christmas dinner is served in the early afternoon. The traditional Christmas dinner is roast turkey with vegetables and sauces. For dessert it is rich, fruity Christmas pudding with brandy sauce. Mince pies, pastry cases filled with a mixture of chopped dried fruit. The traditional plum pudding is served with little treasures hidden inside it and people who find it are considered lucky for the whole year.

Attending a Pantomime is also a special Christmas treat for both adults and children. Pantomimes are performances based on traditional folk and fairy tales, such as Jack and the Beanstalk, Cinderella or Dick Whittington. Normally starring a well-known television personality, they are a lively mix of song, dance and slapstick in which a man plays the dame and a girl takes the part of the 'Principal Boy'. A mixed up world in which good always overcomes evil and everyone lives happily ever after.

26th of December is called Boxing Day.

There are disparate theories as to the origins of the term. The more common stories include:

It was the day when people would give a present or Christmas box to those who had worked for them throughout the year. This is still done in Britain for

postmen and paper-boys - though now the 'box' is usually given before Christmas, not after.

In feudal times, Christmas was a reason for a gathering of extended families. All the serfs would gather their families in the manor of their lord, which made it easier for the lord of the estate to hand out annual stipends to the serfs. After all the Christmas parties on 26 December, the lord of the estate would give practical goods such as cloth, grains, and tools to the serfs who lived on his land. Each family would get a box full of such goods the day after Christmas. Under this explanation, there was nothing voluntary about this transaction; the lord of the manor was obliged to supply these goods. Because of the boxes being given out, the day was called Boxing Day.

In England many years ago, it was common practice for the servants to carry boxes to their employers when they arrived for their day's work on the day after Christmas. Their employers would then put coins in the boxes as special end-of-year gifts. This can be compared with the modern day concept of Christmas bonuses. The servants carried boxes for the coins, hence the name Boxing Day.

In churches, it was traditional to open the church's donation box on Christmas Day, and the money in the donation box was to be distributed to the poorer or lower class citizens on the next day. In this case, the "box" in "Boxing Day" comes from that lockbox in which the donations were left. (Source: Wikipedia)

Christmas in America

Christmas celebrations vary greatly between regions of the United States, because of the variety of nationalities which have settled in it.

In Alaska, a star on a pole is taken from door to door, followed by Herod's Men, who try to capture the star. Colonial doorways are often decorated with pineapple, a symbol of hospitality. Boys and girls with lanterns on poles carry a large figure of a star from door to door. They sing carols and are invited in for supper.

In Washington D.C., a huge, spectacular tree is lit ceremoniously when the President presses a button and turns on the tree's lights.

In Boston, carol singing festivities are famous. The singers are accompanied by hand bells.

In New Orleans, a huge ox is paraded around the streets decorated with holly and with ribbons tied to its horns.

In Arizona, the Mexican ritual called *Las Posadas* is kept up. This is a ritual procession and play representing the search of Mary and Joseph for a room at the inn. Families play the parts and visit each other's houses enacting and re-enacting the drama and, at the same time, having a look at each family's crib.

In Hawaii, Christmas starts with the coming of the Christmas Tree Ship, which is a ship bringing a great load of Christmas fare. Santa Claus also arrives by boat.

In California, Santa Claus sweeps in on a surf board.

American homes are decorated with holly, mistletoe and branches of trees, most have a Christmas tree hung with electric lights, tinsel, baubles, and strings of popcorn and candy canes.

Christmas in Ireland

In Ireland, children often put out Christmas sacks instead of stockings. It is tradition to leave mince pies and a bottle of Guinness out as a snack for Santa.

Christmas in New Zealand

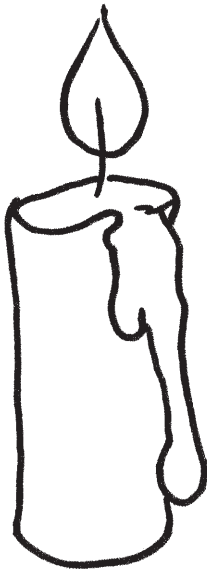
New Zealand is on the southern hemisphere. Our winter is their summer, so New Zealanders celebrate Christmas in the warm summer sun. Many flowers and trees are in bloom at this time of the year, for example the Pohutukawa. The Pohutukawa tree grows on the North Island, mainly in coastal areas and has lovely red blossoms. Therefore New Zealanders call the Pohutukawa their Christmas tree.

As it is usually quite warm on Christmas Day, New Zealanders can eat their Christmas dinner outside. Many people have a picnic or a barbecue. And some people even have a traditional Maori hangi: they dig a hole in the ground and heat it with hot stones. Then they put meat and vegetables into this hole, cover the hole and let the food cook inside. The hangi is served in the afternoon or evening; after the delicious meal, people often sit around and sing Christmas carols. Some New Zealanders can't get enough of Christmas—they celebrate it twice each year: on 25 December and in July, which is mid-winter in New Zealand. So if you go to New Zealand in July, you may find hotels and restaurants fully decorated for Christmas.

Where is Santa? (Tune: Are you sleeping?)

Where is Santa?
 Where is Santa? *(hands behind back)*
 Here I am!
 Here I am! *(arms out in front making a belly shape!)*
 Merry, Merry Christmas!
 Merry, Merry, Christmas! *(keep arms up through the rest of the song!)*
 Ho! Ho! Ho!,
 Ho! Ho! Ho!

Here's a little Candle (Tune: "I'm a Little Teapot")



Here's a little candle dressed in white,
 Wearing a hat of yellow light.
 When the night is dark, then you will see
 Just how bright this light can be.

Here's a little candle straight and tall,
 Shining it's light upon us all.
 When the night is dark, then you will see
 Just how bright this light can be.

Here's a little candle burning bright.
 Keeping us safe all through the night.
 When the night is dark, then you will see
 Just how bright this light can be!

Let's all do a little Clapping (Tune: "We wish You A Merry Christmas")

Let's all do a little clapping,
 Let's all do a little clapping,
 Let's all do a little clapping
 And spread Christmas cheer.

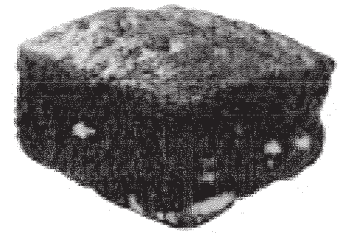
** You can change the clapping to other activities (Jumping, twirling, stretching, bending)
 Ask the kids for other ideas.*

Chocolate Brownies

(easy to make - delicious to eat!)

Sie benötigen:

- 100 g Butter
- 1 Tasse Schokoraspeln (Zartbitter)
- 2 große Eier
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Tasse Rohrzucker
- 1 Päckchen Vanillinzucker
- 1 Tasse Mehl
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Tasse gehackte Walnüsse (wer mag)



Vorbereitung:

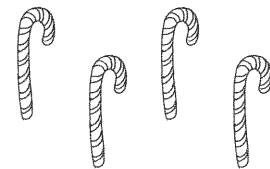
1. Ofen auf 180 Grad vorheizen
2. Backblech einfetten
3. Butter und Schokoraspeln schmelzen
4. In einer Schüssel: Eier schlagen, Zucker und Vanillinzucker zufügen und mit der geschmolzenen Mischung aus Schokoraspeln und Butter vermengen.
5. Mehl hinzugeben, sowie -wer mag- gehackte Walnüsse.
6. Teig auf dem Blech verteilen und ca. 25 Min. backen.
7. Nach dem abkühlen in Quadrate schneiden.

Candy Canes

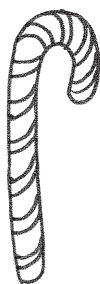
(made of marzipan)

Sie benötigen:

- für 4 Candy Canes
- 90 g Marzipan
- rote Lebensmittelfarbe



Vorbereitung:



- Das Marzipan wird in 3 gleich große Stücke geschnitten
2 davon werden in der Mitte geteilt und mit der Handfläche in Stäbchen gerollt (4 Stück jeweils 2x so lang wie ihr Mittelfinger).
- Das 3. Stück wird in einer Schüssel mit der roten Lebensmittelfarbe (ca. 3 Tropfen) vermischt.
Das rote Marzipan wird in 4 gleich große Stücke geteilt und gerollt (3x so lang wie ihr Mittelfinger)
An einem Ende beginnend, rollen Sie nun das rote Marzipan um das helle herum.
Nun rollen Sie die Stäbchen nochmals und formen Sie in die typische „Candy Cane“ - Form.



Christmas Rhyming Quiz

1. What hangs from the roof and rhymes with bicycle?



Icicle

2. What's a small piece of snow and rhymes with cake?

Flake

3. What sport do you do that rhymes with me?

Ski

4. What do you wear when it's cold that rhymes with loves?

Gloves

5. What falls from the sky and rhymes with glow?

Snow

6. What covers your window and rhymes with lost?

Frost

7. What's a winter month and rhymes with remember?

December

8. What do you fight with that rhymes with hall?



Ball

9. What do you do before Christmas that rhymes with cake?

Bake

10. What's another word for snowstorm that rhymes with lizard?

Blizzard

11. What makes you warm that rhymes with hire?

Fire

12. What do you skate on that rhymes with nice?



Ice

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