

CHRISTMAS - A GIFT OF LOVE

TEACHER INPUT IDEAS

1. The potpourri of activities in this Christmas unit were developed for Junior Enrichment students and Grade 7 & 8 students. Several of the activities could be altered for use with the Primary grades.
2. These activities would fit very nicely into a Partners In Action programme where resource-based learning is used as:
 1. independent work activities
 2. large group activities
 3. school-wide enrichment activities
 4. enrichment group activities
 5. interest centres in resource centre
 6. reward-time activities

The teacher-librarian and the classroom teacher could partner the activities so that each is responsible for a specific area of the unit.

3. A good time to begin these activities is the day after the Santa Claus Parade in your area or mid-November.
4. There are five activities for each title idea in the potpourri. The questions are based on Bloom's Taxonomy of Cognitive Objectives following these levels of understanding:
 1. knowledge
 2. comprehension
 3. application
 4. analysis
 5. synthesis
 6. evaluation



Giving & Receiving

Analyze the real purpose of "giving" and "receiving."

1.

Colours

List the predominant Christmas colours.

Give your reasons as to why they represent Christmas.

Giving & Receiving

Explain your thoughts regarding the old saying, "It's better to give than to receive".

2.

Colours

For each colour, produce several objects which represent Christmas.

You may draw these objects or cut them out of magazines, catalogues, or newspaper flyers.

Colours

In a poem or story, define your feelings as to why you think these colours are appropriate for this festive season.

3.

Food

Specify the types of food which are associated with Christmas festivities in Canada.

Why have they become traditional Christmas dishes?

Prepare a recipe booklet of these dishes.

1.

Colours

Using the Christmas colours, design three sheets of wrapping paper to use for your gifts.

4.

Food

Compare Canadian Christmas food with that prepared in other countries.

2.

Legends

Research the many legends surrounding Christmas:

star, stocking, poinsettia, mistletoe, holly, tree, plum pudding, turkey, and so forth.

Legends

Santa Claus and his elves are not the same legend in other countries.

Compare our Santa with Befana, Kolya, Sinter Klaus, Kolyadki, Kris Kringle, St. Nicholas, Father Christmas, Nissen, Le Père Noël, Lan Khoong Khoong, and Dun Che Lao Ren.

Include country, appearance, gift bearing, transportation, and helpers.

Construct a picture book using the ideas you have collected.

Customs

Research how Christmas is celebrated in other countries around the world.

Customs

Illustrate your favourite aspect of Christmas for each country on a collage or in colouring book style.

Snow

Explain what Snow and Christmas have in common in Canada.

Express your feelings in relation to this.

Snow

Discuss whether you believe that snow is really an integral part of Canadian Christmas festivities.

Emotions

Write a Christmas poem which incorporates most of the emotions felt during the Christmas season.

Poetry