



# CHRISTMAS FUN FACTS ANTICIPATION GUIDE

Read each statement and decide if it is True or False. Complete the left column before the reading by circling the T for True or the F for False. Complete the right column after you finish the reading. Did any of your answers change?

BEFORE READING		STATEMENT	AFTER READING	
T	F	The sequel to "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer".	T	F
T	F	There is an island named "Christmas".	T	F
T	F	In Hawaii, Santa is called Kanakaloka.	T	F
T	F	The Christmas stocking tradition started in America.	T	F
T	F	Merry Christmas in the Philippines is 'Maligayang Pasko'.	T	F
T	F	The song "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was written in 1879.	T	F
T	F	The "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" song was written in 149.	T	F
T	F	On Christmas Day in Venezuela, families head to church on skis.	T	F
T	F	President Eisenhower sent the first official White House Christmas card.	T	F

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Latvia is home to historical fir tree decorations. The first Christmas tree, since the 1800s, was decorated with dried herring, apples, and nuts.

# Christmas Fun Facts

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer the questions below. Then on the coloring page, color each numbered section with the corresponding color. If there is any space left over, color it your choice! Follow the directions provided to cite evidence from the reading.

Questions	Text Evidence	Answer
#1 How many real Christmas trees are sold in the U.S. each year?	Find proof in the reading and UNDERLINE it in RED	35 billion RED
#2 What do families in the Ukraine decorate their trees with?	Find proof in the reading and CIRCLE it in GREEN	Spider webs BLUE STRIPES
#3 What year was the Statue of Liberty given to France?	Find proof in the reading and BOX it in RED	1886 ORANGE
#4 About how many cards are mailed each year?	Find proof in the reading and BOX it in YELLOW	1.2 billion ORANGE
#5 What did give thread spools their original color?	Find proof in the reading and CIRCLE it in ORANGE	Ireland BROWN
#6 What holiday was Jingle Bells originally written for?	Find proof in the reading and UNDERLINE it in PURPLE	Thanksgiving GREEN STRIPES



# CHRISTMAS FUN FACTS

The tallest Christmas tree ever cut was 221 feet high according to Guinness World Records. The tree was displayed in Seattle, Washington in 1950. Over 35 million real Christmas trees are sold in the United States every year. Thomas Edison's assistant came up with the idea of electric lights for Christmas trees. In the late 1800's, Christmas trees were decorated with apples and other fruits.

During World War I there was a Christmas truce between the British and the German soldiers. On Christmas Eve, the soldiers exchanged gifts, played football and decorated the trenches. Fighting resumed the next day.

The most famous Christmas tradition in Norway is the gift of a Christmas tree to the Lord Kings every year. The tree is given as 'thank you' for the help that the King gave to Norway during World War II. The tree stands in Trafalgar Square, London.

In the Ukraine, families decorate their Christmas trees with spider webs similar to Halloween. Ukrainians believe that a magic spider will visit poor families and turn the webs into gold and silver.

The Statue of Liberty was given to the United States by the French on Christmas day in 1886. Some consider it the world's largest Christmas present.

In 1836, Alabama was the first US state to declare Christmas as a legal holiday. Oklahoma was the last state to declare Christmas as a holiday in 1907.

During the Christmas season, an average of 28 million LEGO products are sold every second. The Friday and Saturday before Christmas are the busiest shopping days of the year.

More than three billion Christmas cards are sent in the United States every year. The first commercial Christmas card was created by Henry Cole in 1843. President Eisenhower sent the first official White House Christmas card in 1953.

On Christmas Day in Venezuela, families head to the beach to roller skate. Christmas is in the summer in Australia so children build snowmen out of sand.

The Christmas stocking tradition started in Europe. Christmas stockings were originally plain socks, but soon, stockings made especially for the