

# CHRISTMAS FUN FACTS

## Secret Message

### 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. Around 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 Germans. In the trenches, the soldiers exchanged gifts, played football and decorated their shelters. Fighting resumed the next day.

The most famous Christmas tradition in Norway is the gift of a Christmas tree to the United Kingdom every year. The tree is given as 'thank you' for the help that the UK gave to Norway during World War II. The tree stands in Trafalgar Square in 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 riches.

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.

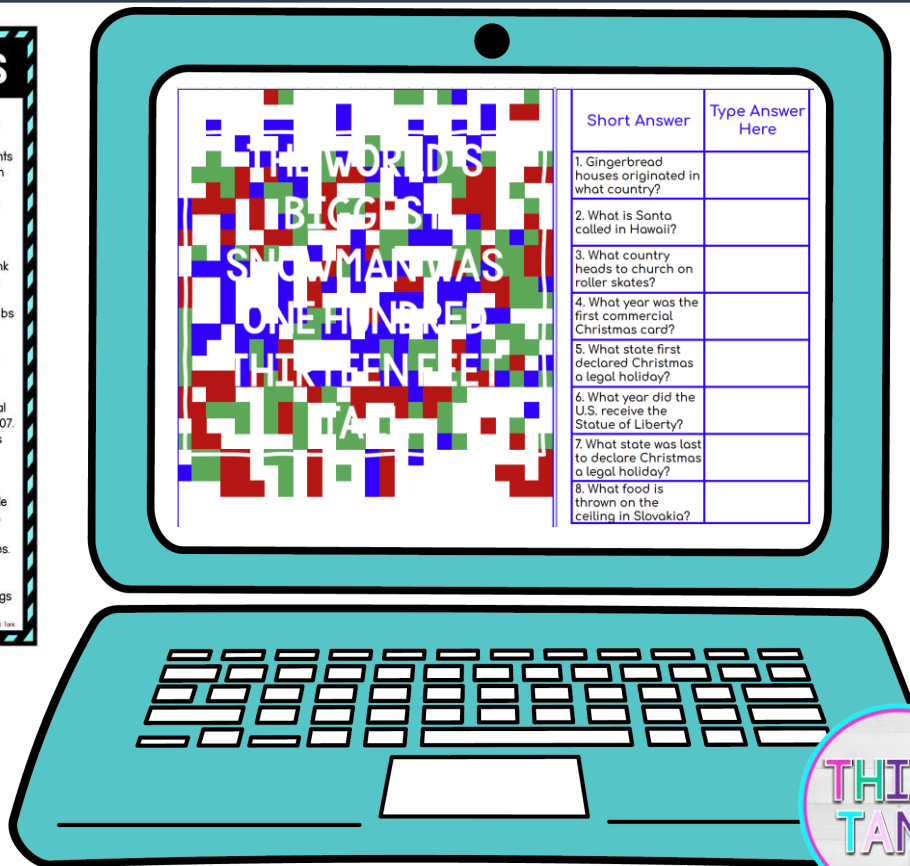
In 1836, Alabama was the first US state to declare Christmas as a legal holiday. Oklahoma was the last state to declare Christmas as a holiday in 1907.

During the Christmas season, an average of 28 sets of 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 church on roller skates. 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



GOOGLE  
SHEETS™

THINK  
TANK

THE WORLD'S  
BIGGEST  
SNOWMAN WAS  
BUILT IN  
1952 IN  
MONTANA  
AND WAS  
TALL

Short Answer

Type Answer  
Here

1. Gingerbread  
houses originated in  
what country?

2. What is Santa  
called in Hawaii?

3. What country  
heads to church on  
roller skates?

4. What year was the  
first commercial  
Christmas card?

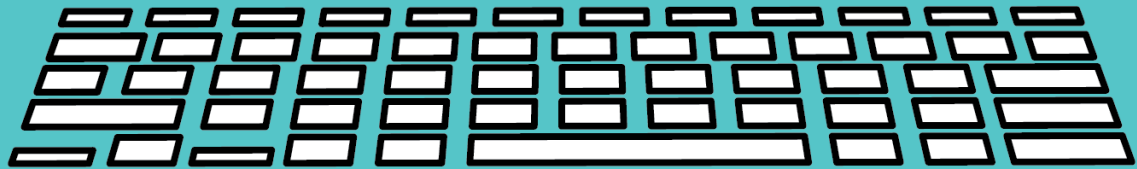
5. What state first  
declared Christmas  
a legal holiday?

6. What year did the  
U.S. receive the  
Statue of Liberty?

7. What state was last  
to declare Christmas  
a legal holiday?

8. What food is  
thrown on the  
ceiling in Slovakia?

Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. Gingerbread houses originated in what country?		9. The Christmas stocking tradition started in ____.	
2. What is Santa called in Hawaii?		10. In Australia, children build snowmen out of ____.	
3. What country heads to church on roller skates?		11. An average of 28 sets of ____ products are sold every second.	
4. What year was the first commercial Christmas card?		12. Ukrainians believe that a magic ____ will visit poor families.	
5. What state first declared Christmas a legal holiday?		13. The tallest Christmas tree ever cut was ____ feet high.	
6. What year did the U.S. receive the Statue of Liberty?		14. The largest stocking was ____ feet long.	
7. What state was last to declare Christmas a legal holiday?		15. "Jingle Bells" was originally written for ____.	
8. What food is thrown on the ceiling in Slovakia?		16. The Twelve Days of Christmas totals ____ gifts.	



## 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. Around 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 Germans. In the trenches, the soldiers exchanged gifts, played football and decorated their shelters. Fighting resumed the next day.

The most famous Christmas tradition in Norway is the gift of a Christmas tree to the United Kingdom every year. The tree is given as 'thank you' for the help that the UK gave to Norway during World War II. The tree stands in Trafalgar Square in 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 riches.

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 sets of 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 church on roller skates. 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

© Steve Tark

purpose of holding gifts, were designed. In 2007, the Children's Society in London created the world's largest stocking. The stocking measured over 106 feet long and 49 feet wide. The stocking weighs as much as five reindeer and holds almost one thousand presents.

The song "Jingle Bells" was originally written for Thanksgiving. The popular Christmas song called "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" dates back to the 16th century. Felix Mendelssohn composed the tune to "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" as a tribute to printer/inventor Johannes Gutenberg. All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas song would equal 364 gifts.

Australians have their own version of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" where all of the animals are replaced by wildlife from down under.

The song "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was written in 1949. There is a sequel to "Grandpa Got Run Over by a Reindeer," titled "Grandpa's Gonna Sue Santa."

There is an island named "Christmas" in the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. Merry Christmas in the Philippines is 'Maligayang Pasko'.

There are twenty nine cities and towns across America whose names embody the spirit of Christmas.

Santa Claus eats over 300 million cookies on Christmas Eve. In Slovakia, Santa is known as Svätý Mikuláš and Merry Christmas is 'veselé Vianoce'. In Hawaii, Santa is called Kanakaloa. One tradition in Slovakia is for the oldest male of the family to take a spoonful of pudding and throw it on the ceiling. The more that sticks, the better the luck in the year to come.

Decades ago in England, the traditional Christmas meal was a pig's head with mustard.

In the United Arab Emirates, a Christmas tree was decorated and valued at \$11,026,900.

About 1.2 billion candy canes are made every year.

Gingerbread houses originated in Germany during the 16th century, typically decorated with foil and gold leaves. In 2013, a 22-foot gingerbread house was baked for a fundraiser and required over 7,200 eggs.

© Steve Tark



**PLEASE VIEW  
THE VIDEO TO  
SEE HOW THIS  
PRODUCT WORKS**