



DECEMBER

Christmas Crafts



BIG QUESTION

What's your favorite Christmas tradition in your family?

MOVIE TIME (5 min)

Say: **Let's learn about reindeer and all the amazing ways they survive the cold!** <https://youtu.be/pKRIm-RvA0?si=c5cTn5JmEiUImFUy>

WRITING CONTEST (20 min)

STORY CONTEST: WRITE & ILLUSTRATE YOUR TALE!

For complete details and guidance, refer to the additional resources.

Say: **We will be participating in a Story Contest. This is your chance to write and illustrate your own story! Over the next week to week a half, you'll create a story about an approved topic, add your own illustrations, and design a cool cover. The winners will receive a prize from STEM Taught, and their stories will get published in STEM Taught's school programs. This is a very special and exciting opportunity, so, get creative, take your time, and remember, it's always okay to ask for help. I can't wait to see what you come up with!**

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencils
- Construction paper
- Craft supplies
- Optional: Laptops

STEM TIME

(60 min)

Materials:

- White & black construction paper
- Crayons, oil pastels, or markers
- Pencils & erasers
- White paint
- Paintbrush
- Glue
- Scissors

MAKE A REINDEER

1. Use your pencil to draw the reindeer's head, antlers, hooves, and a fence on the white paper. Make sure you add plenty of detail!
2. Once you're happy with your drawing, color it with crayons, markers, or oil pastels. Be sure to outline the pictures in dark colors for extra detail to help it stand out.
3. Carefully cut out your reindeer, and glue it onto the black construction paper.
4. Dip the end of a paintbrush into the white paint. Gently dot the paper to create snowy spots around your reindeer and fence.
5. Allow your artwork to dry before taking it home or displaying it in the classroom.



GAME TIME

(60 min)

Materials:

- Masking tape or jump ropes
- Lots of "snowballs"! Big pom-poms work best, but tightly wadded pieces of paper work too.

Materials:

- Cards



SNOWBALL FIGHT

1. Move desks and chairs out of the way to create a big open space. Place a strip of masking tape or jump ropes down the middle of the room to mark the dividing line. Split the students into two teams.
2. Count the snowballs (pom-poms or wadded paper) and split them evenly into two piles—one on each side of the dividing line.
3. On the count of three, yell, "Snowball Fight!" Students will race to pick up snowballs and throw them across the line to the other team's side.
4. Set a timer for 1 or 2 minutes. When the timer goes off, yell, "Stop!"
5. Each team will gather the snowballs on their side and count how many they have. The team with the least snowballs on their side wins.
6. Redistribute them snowballs so that each team has the same number. Reset the timer, and go again!
 - This game is loud, active, and crazy, and the kids absolutely love it!
 - Take turns throwing snowballs to keep it fun for everyone!

CHRISTMAS Pictionary

1. Cut apart the cards and place them in a pile by the whiteboard. Each card will have a holiday-themed drawing prompt.
2. Split the class into two teams, such as boys vs. girls.
3. Select the first team to go. One member from that team will be chosen as the illustrator and will go to the whiteboard.
4. The leader will start the timer for one minute. The illustrator will draw the image based on the prompt they select from the pile.
5. While the illustrator is drawing, the team will begin guessing what the drawing represents. If the team guesses correctly, the illustrator can choose another card and continue drawing.
6. When the timer goes off, the team gets 1 point for every correct guess. Then, it's the other team's turn to draw.
7. The game continues with each team taking turns drawing and guessing. The first team to reach 10 points or the team with the most points after a set number of rounds wins!

Card ideas:

Santa in the chimney, kids decorating a Christmas tree, mom wrapping presents, dad hanging Christmas lights on a ladder, baking cookies, making a snow angel, reindeer on a roof, people caroling, family eating Christmas dinner, stockings hung by the fireplace, snowy forest at night, hot cocoa and cookies, kid opening presents, and more!