

CHRISTMAS

Resources 2024

For 4-12 Ages



CHRISTMAS

Word Search



Find the hidden Christmas words.

N	E	W	Y	E	A	R	N	U	R	D	C
H	L	S	P	N	A	L	O	C	K	A	O
F	F	N	H	T	R	V	F	E	T	R	U
I	I	O	S	F	H	O	L	L	Y	P	N
R	D	W	M	I	N	U	T	E	R	A	T
E	N	M	T	N	T	B	H	B	K	R	D
W	I	A	E	S	A	N	T	A	S	T	O
O	G	N	R	G	A	L	D	A	Y	Y	W
R	H	R	E	S	O	L	U	T	I	O	N
K	T	R	A	E	I	O	O	E	R	I	S
S	T	O	C	K	I	N	G	R	A	F	N
B	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	N	E	L

ELF

STAR

PARTY

SANTA

STOCKING

PRESENTS

NEW YEAR

HOLLY

COUNTDOWN

FIREWORKS

RESOLUTION

SNOWMAN

CHRISTMAS Activities

Here are some Advent activities that are simple, fun, and meaningful. Choose 1 per week of advent that you can focus on as you prepare for Christmas. These activities help embrace the joy, gratitude, and spirit of Advent in preparation for Christmas!

Jesse Tree –

- decorate a Jesse Tree with symbols representing Biblical characters leading up to Jesus' birth.

Daily Acts of Kindness –

- Write down 25 small acts of kindness to do each day, such as helping a sibling or sharing with a friend.

Prayer Journal –

- Start an Advent prayer journal to write reflections, hopes, and prayers each day.

Random Acts of Christmas Kindness –

- Leave encouraging notes, give out small treats, or offer help to friends and family.

Read the Nativity Story –

- Read a part of the Nativity story each night, leading up to Christmas Eve.

Advent Wreath –

- Light candles on an Advent wreath each Sunday and say a special prayer or intention.

CHRISTMAS TREE –

- Decorate a Christmas Tree with Meaning – Hang ornaments that each represent something special or prayer intentions.

gratitude –

- Write one thing you're grateful for each day and place it in a jar. Read them on Christmas Day.

Volunteer at a Food Bank –

- Spend time volunteering to serve those in need, showing the spirit of giving.

Christmas Cards for the Elderly –

- Make and decorate Christmas cards to deliver to a local nursing home or hospital.

CHRISTMAS WREATH

Make your own Advent Wreath



The Advent wreath is a cherished Christian tradition that symbolizes the four weeks leading up to Christmas. Crafted from evergreen branches, the circular shape of the wreath represents eternity. Traditionally, Advent wreaths feature three purple candles, one pink candle, and often a fifth white candle in the center. Each candle represents a different aspect of spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus.

Here's how to make a simple Advent wreath with easy steps:

What You'll Need:

- A round wreath form (foam, wire, or even a paper plate)
- Green leaves or branches (real or fake)
- Four candles (3 purple, 1 pink)
- Optional decorations (like small ornaments, berries, or ribbons)

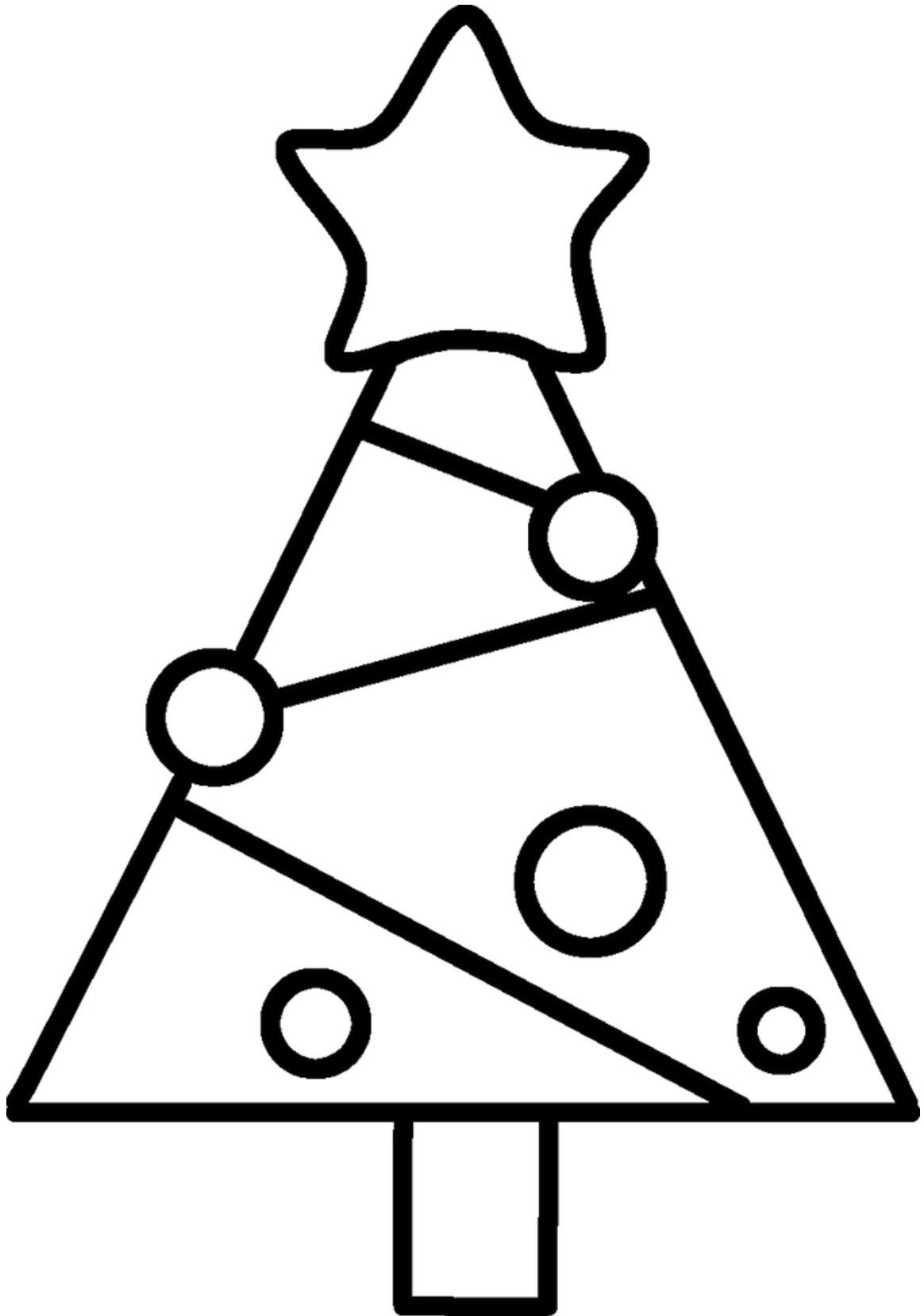
Steps:

1. **Prepare the Wreath Base:** If you're using a paper plate, cut a hole in the middle so it forms a ring.
2. **Add Greenery:** Take the green branches or leaves and place them around the wreath. You can tuck them into a foam base or tie them around a wire base. Make sure to cover the whole wreath.
3. **Place the Candles:** Space out the four candles evenly around the wreath. You can glue them, use candle holders, or secure them with clay if needed.
4. **Decorate (Optional):** Add small ornaments, ribbons, or berries to make it look festive.
5. **Light the Candles Each Week:** On each Sunday of Advent, light one candle and say a prayer or reflect on the meaning of the season. The first, second, and fourth candles are purple, and the third candle is pink.

Now you have your own Advent wreath to enjoy each week as Christmas gets closer!



Color the Christmas tree.



CHRISTMAS STORIES

The Story of Jesus' Birth

A long time ago, in the town of Nazareth, there lived a young woman named Mary. Mary was kind and loved God with all her heart. One day, an angel named Gabriel appeared to Mary with an important message from God. Gabriel told Mary that she was chosen to be the mother of a special baby, God's own son. She was to name him Jesus. Mary was surprised and a little afraid, but she trusted God and said, "Yes, I will do as God asks."

Mary was engaged to a man named Joseph. Soon after the angel's visit, they had to travel to Bethlehem, a small town far from their home. The Roman emperor had ordered everyone to go to their hometown to be counted. So Mary and Joseph traveled the long journey to Bethlehem, with Mary riding on a donkey.

When they arrived in Bethlehem, the town was crowded with people, and every inn was full. Mary and Joseph searched everywhere but couldn't find a place to stay. Finally, an innkeeper took pity on them and offered them a place to rest in a stable, where animals like sheep, cows, and donkeys slept.

That night, in the quiet of the stable, baby Jesus was born. Mary wrapped him in soft cloths and laid him in a manger, a feeding trough filled with hay. Although he was born in a humble place, his birth brought a great light into the world.

Not far away, on a hillside, shepherds were watching over their sheep. Suddenly, an angel appeared in the sky, and the shepherds were terrified. But the angel said, "Don't be afraid! I bring you good news of great joy for everyone. Today, in Bethlehem, a Savior has been born. You will find him wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Then, many more angels appeared, singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth." The shepherds were amazed and hurried to Bethlehem to see this special baby. When they found Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus in the stable, they knelt down to worship him.

Later, wise men from the East saw a bright star in the sky. They knew this star was a sign that a great king had been born. They followed the star all the way to Bethlehem, where it led them to Jesus. The wise men brought him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh—treasures fit for a king.

Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the wise men all knew that Jesus was a special gift from God, sent to bring love and peace to the world. And that is why we celebrate Christmas—because Jesus, God's son, came into the world to bring light and joy to everyone.

The Message of the Story

The story of Jesus' birth reminds us that love, hope, and joy are gifts for everyone. Just like the shepherds and wise men who came to see Jesus, we, too, can welcome his love into our hearts and share kindness with others.

The Story of the Christmas Star

A long time ago, in a land far away, there were three wise men, also known as the Magi. They spent their days studying the night sky, reading old scrolls, and learning about the world. One night, they noticed a bright new star shining high above them. This star was more beautiful and brighter than any other they had seen before.

The wise men knew this star was special. They remembered an old prophecy that said a new king would be born, one who would bring hope and peace to the world. They believed this bright star was a sign of this new king's birth.

So, the three wise men decided to follow the star, believing it would lead them to the new king. They traveled for many days and nights across mountains, deserts, and rivers. They journeyed through towns and villages, always keeping the star in their sight.

Finally, the star led them to a little town called Bethlehem. It shone brightly above a small stable. When the wise men entered the stable, they found Mary and Joseph, and lying in a manger filled with hay was the baby Jesus, the new king they had been searching for.

The wise men were filled with joy and wonder. They knelt before baby Jesus and presented him with gifts they had brought: gold, frankincense, and myrrh—precious treasures fit for a king.

The bright Christmas star had led them to the greatest gift of all, and they knew in their hearts that this little baby would change the world with love, peace, and hope.

The Message of the Story

The story of the Christmas star reminds us that Jesus brings light to the world, guiding us just like the star guided the wise men. It shows us that by following the light of love and kindness, we can find joy, peace, and hope, just as the wise men found on that first Christmas night.

