



Grades 2-7

Christmas

Unit Study



A Journey Through Learning
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Thank you for purchasing from **A Journey Through Learning**. We hope that you enjoy our unit study entitled **Christmas**. Getting started is easy.

First, take the time to just browse through the pages to familiarize yourself with the layout. In this book, you will find many topics.

Each topic has a(an):

- * information page
- *correlating activity pages

We have also included

- *games, crafts, and recipes

Information Page

Each of the topics has an information page to read to your child.

Activity Page

After the information page has been read, it is time to do the activity that is found right after the information page. Some of these activities are more for fun while others are more challenging. All of them will enrich your child's understanding and knowledge of each topic.

Games We have also included a game of Christmas Taboo, Christmas Tic-Tac-Toe, and a Christmas matching game for your child to enjoy!

Again, thank you for order from A Journey Through Learning. We pray that you and your child are truly blessed"

Nancy and Paula



How Long Does it Take to Complete A Unit Study?

Doing a study guide page and an activity sheet a day, it should take about one month to complete. However, you can expand the study portion and make it last as long as you like! That's the beauty of homeschooling! Do it YOUR way!

Study Choices

Choice #1- Read the first page of the study guide. Then use the internet and fun children's books to learn more about the topic that is covered in that study guide. For instance-our American Indians Unit Study has a study guide page about Geronimo. Dig into Geronimo. There are probably lots of interesting things to learn about him that the study guide does not cover. Spend a day on Geronimo or spend a week! When your child has completed studying that particular topic, it will be time to do the activity sheet for that topic. The activity sheets are found right after the study guide page that it goes with.

Choice #2- Read only the study guide page and do the activity sheet that goes with it. The activity sheets are found right after the study guide page that it goes with. You may choose to do one study guide/activity sheet per day, two per day, two per week, three per week, etc. It doesn't matter. The pace is completely up to you. At one per day, it will take about a month to complete this unit study.

Tips and tricks to go the extra mile!

Supplies Need:

½ inch three-ring binder

8 tabs (if you are using our copywork and/or notebooking pages, you will need to have 10 tabs. Label with copywork and notebooking)

Your study guide and activity sheet pages

1. Label your tabs: Study Guide, Activity Sheets, Book Log, NICK, Biography Reports, Outlines, and Narration pages (Copywork and Notebooking, if using these).
2. Make copies of NICK notes and outline forms and narration forms, put them behind the tabs. Your child can use either the NICK notes form (easier) or the outline form (a bit harder) after any of the study guides. The narration forms also come in two levels. Choose the correct level for your child. These serve as a good way for your child to show what they have learned.
3. Hole punch your study guide and activity sheets and place behind the correct tab. You will read a page of a study guide. Behind the study guide are all of the activities that go with that study guide.

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- Decorate the Gingerbread Man activity (craft)
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- Fill out a December Calendar (activity)
- Advent Calendar (activity)
- What are Family Traditions (study guide)
- Write about your family traditions (activity)
- Doing Something Special for Someone Else (activity)
- The Christmas Tree (study guide)
- Unscramble the Christmas Tree Words (activity)
- Make an Edible Ice Cream Christmas Tree (recipe)
- Santa's Reindeer (study guide)
- Santa's Reindeer (activity)
- Recipe for Making a Special Treat for Santa's Reindeer (activity)
- The Christmas Wreath (study guide)
- Making a Wreath from Nature for the Birds (craft)
- Who's Santa? (study guide)
- Who is Santa (activity)
- Can You Help Santa Find the Reindeer Maze (activity)
- Your Christmas Wish List (activity)
- Writing a Letter to Santa (activity)
- Christmas Word Search (game)
- Christmas Carols (study guide)
- Christmas Carols (activity)
- My Favorite Christmas Memory (activity)
- Christmas Sugar Cookies (recipe)
- Snowball Surprise (recipe)
- Christmas Taboo (game)
- Christmas Tic Tac Toe (game)
- Christmas Memory Match (game)

History of the Gingerbread Man

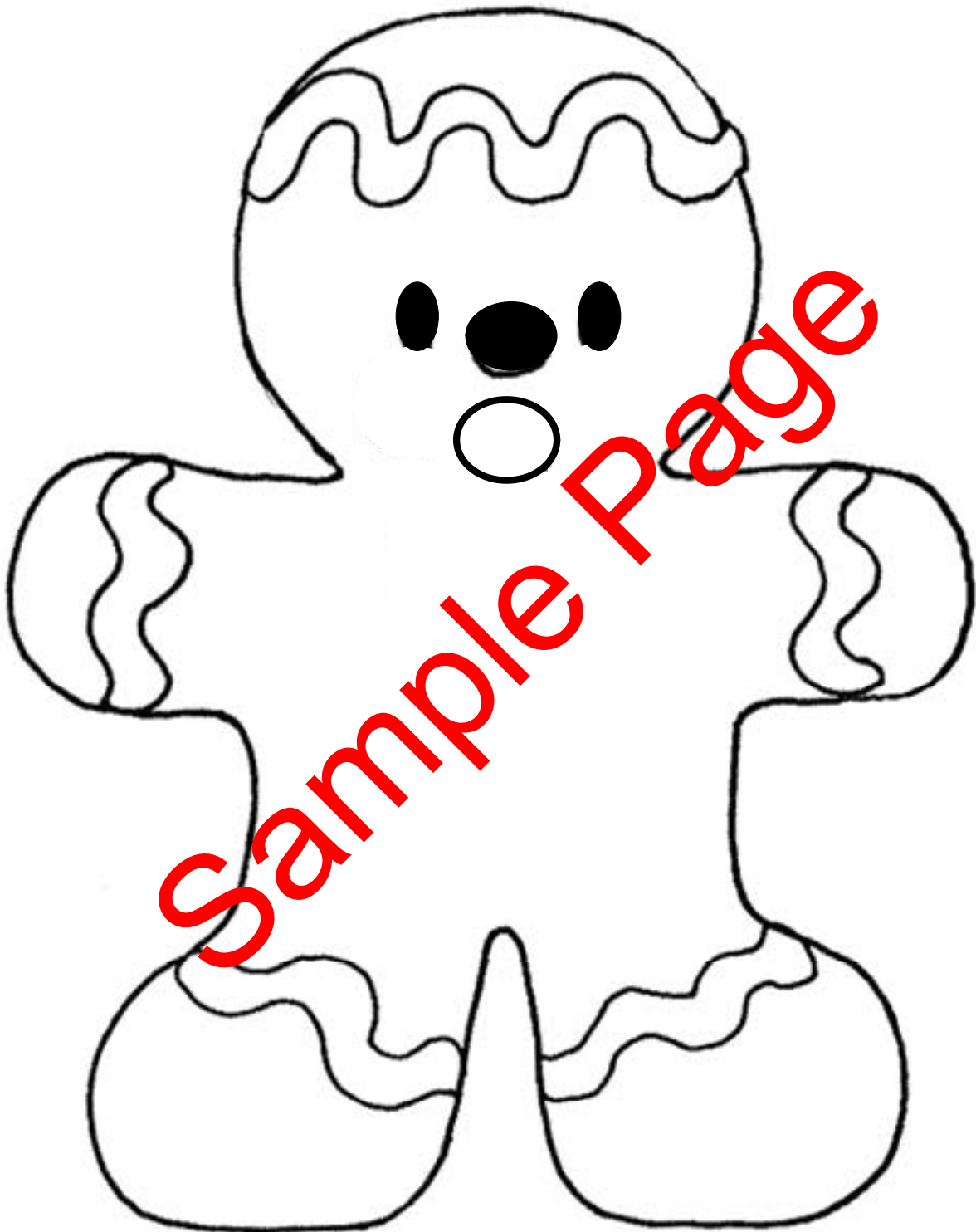
The idea of the gingerbread house was taken from the Grimm's Brothers' tale of Hansel and Gretel. In their story, they described a house "made of bread," with a roof of cake and windows of barley. After the book, a German baker began creating elaborate gingerbread houses.

However, many give credit to Queen Elizabeth I for creating the first gingerbread man. She would have her cook create cookies in the likeness of her dinner guests.

In the 1900's, tinsmiths created cookie cutters in the shape of many forms. These "shaped" cookies became very popular. In the late 1900's, many families were using the cookie tins to decorate their Christmas trees.



Decorate the Gingerbread Man



Gingerbread Men Cookies



2 3/4 c. flour
1/2 tsp. soda
1 tsp. ginger
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 c. shortening
1/4 c. brown sugar
3/4 c. molasses
1 beaten egg
1 tsp. hot water
1 tsp. vinegar

Mix all ingredients. Roll onto well floured surface. Cut into gingerbread men. Place on greased cookie sheets dusted with flour. Bake at 350 degrees until brown. Decorate and enjoy!

The History of the Advent Calendar

An Advent calendar is a way to count down the days until Christmas. It begins on December 1 and goes until the 24th. The first Advent calendar can be dated back to the 19th century. It was used by the German Lutherans who marked the count down by drawing chalk marks on their doors. Each day, beginning on December 1, they would draw a mark to count the days until the 24th.

Later, they replaced the chalk marks with 24 white candles. Each day they would light a candle to mark the count down. The first advent wreath was hung in a relief house in Hamburg, Germany in 1839.

Gerhard Lang, is credited with printing the first advent calendar in 1908. It was made of sturdy cardboard and came with 24 small pictures. Each day a picture was cutout and glued on the calendar. In 1912, he introduced the first calendar with 24 little doors that opened. A piece of candy or a small toy was placed behind the doors. Each day a door was opened to mark the count down.

During World War II, in order to save paper, the printing of advent calendars was stopped.

After the war, a business man named Richard Sellmer started a company printing Advent calendars. Today, his company, Richard Sellmer Verlag, is one of the largest producers of advent calendars.



Fill out the December Calendar. Put a star around the day of Christmas.

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

Sample Page

Fill out the Advent Calendar. On Day 1 (December 1), color the item that has a 1 on it. Continue everyday until you reach the 25th.

