

# Buy Nothing Day 2017

## Stay Home and Stay Busy!



## Twig Ornaments and Stocking Markers

### What You Need:

- Twigs of various sizes and shapes
- Scraps of ribbon or yarn
- Dried fruits and berries
- Glue or twine

### What You Do:

1. Arrange twigs into a stick figure or letter, the more straight edges the better. If you must have curves, the thin branches from many shrubs are pretty flexible!
2. Use twine or hot glue to secure the twigs where they intersect or overlap.
3. Wrap twigs with scrap yarn/ribbon or decorate with dried fruit and berries.



## Yarn Ball Ornaments

### What You Need:

- Yarn
- Glue
- Balloons
- Hanger

### What You Do:

1. Blow up the balloons to your desired size. Tie a piece of string to each balloon.
2. In a medium bowl, thin glue by adding 2 parts glue to 1 part water. Mix well.



3. Place a long strand of yarn in to the glue mixture and make sure it is completely coated.
4. As you pull the yarn from the bowl, gently squeeze to remove excess glue. Wrap the balloon with yarn. Tuck the ends beneath other strands so they don't unravel.
5. Tie the balloon to the hanger and let dry overnight or until hardened. Be sure to place something underneath the yarn ball to catch any drippings.
6. Pop the balloon and gently pull it through the ball. Trim any loose ends.
7. Tie a new piece of yarn to the ball and hang!

These would make super cute



## Beanie Ornament

### What You Need:

- Toilet paper or paper towel tube
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Ruler
- Toilet paper

### What You Do:

1. Cut the paper tube into strips about 3/4 inch wide.

2. Cut the yarn into 14 inch strands.

3. Fold a strand in half and place it inside the paper strip. Pass the ends of the yarn through the loop. Pull to form a knot. Repeat until the entire strip is covered.

4. Push all the loose ends through the paper ring. You will end up with something resembling a jelly fish!

5. Tie a knot around all of the strands leaving enough on top to form a pom pom.

6. To get the shape just right, ball up a small piece of toilet paper and push it into the the hat.



7. Trim the top into a neat little pom pom poof!

8. Tie one more strand under the pom pom to create a loop for hanging.

These would also make a great garland to hang over the fireplace!

## How to Dry Fruit Slices

Set oven to 170 or 180 degrees. Slice fruit (we used apples, oranges, lemons, limes, and pears) as thin as possible. To prevent browning, dip each slice into lemon-lime pop (we used 7-UP) and shake off the excess. Place slices directly on the oven rack. Bake 4-6 hours or until slices are completely dry - flipping every hour or so.



## Fruit and Spice Potpourri

### What You Need:

- Cinnamon sticks
- Slices of dried fruit
- Sprigs of evergreen
- Variety of your favorite ground spices (clove, allspice, nutmeg, ginger, etc.)
- Mason jar

### What You Do:

Place a little of everything into the mason jar and decorate it with twine, raffia, or ribbon.

When ready to use, pour the contents into an old saucepan with 1-2 cups of water and simmer! Make sure to check the potpourri every so often to prevent burning!



## The Four Seasons

Father Sun looked down from his shining throne in the blue heaven and saw that there were four brothers battling with each other for the right to rule the earth.

First came the oldest brother from his cold ice palace in the northern skies. He rode a snow-white horse and carried an icy spear. His robes were made of swirling snow. His beard was white with glistening icicles. His eyes were black and cold. Around and about him the North Wind danced and whistled and shrieked, "Make way for the King, the ruler of the whole world."



Wherever this great, cold brother went, the earth became covered with snow. The brooks and rivers turned into ice, the rabbits and squirrels and mice and bears all hid themselves in holes and went to sleep. The birds flew as fast as they could toward the south to get away from the cold, and human beings looked out of the windows of their houses and shivered.

When he had spread his snow and ice far and wide, the Ice King was happy and built himself a new ice palace in the midst of his snowfields wherein he rested and slept. He and the whole earth might have slept forever except there came a wind from the west, blowing over the snow.

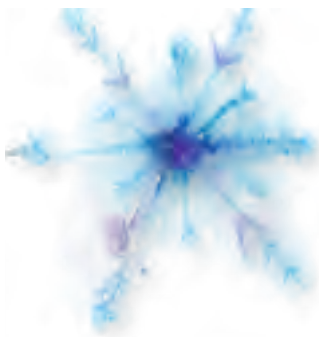
The West Wind was warm and filled with drops of rain. He was the messenger of the Ice King's youngest brother who now came forth from his palace in the western skies to win the world for himself.

Wearing a suit of pale green, a wreath of new green leaves in his hair, and breathing his warm breath, over the snowy hills he came. The raindrops melted the snow, and it disappeared as he passed. In the brooks and rivers, the ice cracked and melted, and the raindrops began to sing and jump and splash and dash on toward the sea. The earth grew soft and warm. New buds bloomed on trees. Birds flew back from the south to build their nests. The rabbits and squirrels and mice and bears woke up and came out of their holes. The human beings started to plow their fields, dig their gardens, and plant their seeds.

The Ice King woke up and sent a great army of snow and hail to fight his youngest brother. But the youngest brother fought with warm raindrops that conquered the snow and hail and turned them into rain and mist, and the defeated Ice King fled away to the north.

So for a while, the earth was alive with sprouting seeds and buds, with tender shoots and new green leaves. Baby birds hatched out of their eggs. Baby kittens were born in the barns, as well as puppies and chicks, and the woods were full of baby animals all newborn and growing. Before all the young plants and animals had even grown up, however, there came from the south a new army to fight for the earth's riches.

This was the army of the third brother who was from the

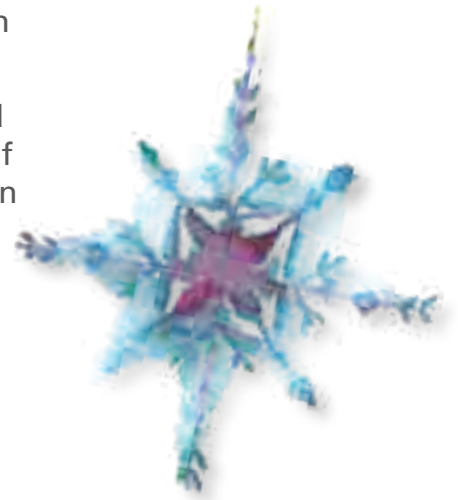




southern skies, whose breath was as hot as fire, whose robes of shining yellow blazed as warmly as the Sun's rays. His hair was as bright as the Sun. His eyes were as blue as the sky. His helper was the hot South Wind who commanded all the hot breezes of the south as they shot little flames over the earth, burning and scorching whatever they touched.

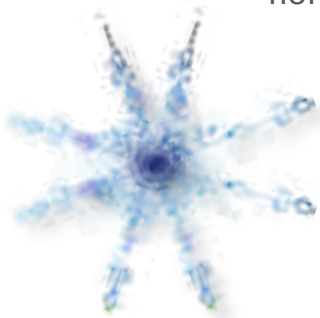
A long battle was fought between the two brothers, the hot one and the one whose gentle warmth had brought the plants and animals to life. For days and days, the hot winds blew, and the brother from the west called forth his raindrop soldiers to fight the heat. Sometimes it seemed as if the hot one was winning, for many brooks and rivers dried up, leaves turned brown, flowers wilted, animals were thirsty, and human beings saw their fields and gardens wither in the heat. Then would come the raindrop army, and for a while the hot winds would disappear, later to return in greater fury.

However, while this battle raged, it brought about good deeds on earth, for the fruits that formed in the flowers drank of the raindrops that fell into the soil, and the hot winds blew upon them so they became warm and ripe and juicy. Berries ripened for the birds, carrots for the rabbits, nuts for the squirrels, and wheat and corn for the human beings. All beings on earth were happy so long as the battle continued, but the two brothers were not happy, for neither one could conquer the other.



Then the fourth brother came growling out of the eastern skies. His eyes were gray and cool. His cloak was orange and brown. In his armies were cold winds and frost fairies. His general was the biting East Wind. As the fourth brother prowled over the earth, his chill winds chased the hot south winds away, his frost soldiers turned the warm raindrops to sleet. Leaves and fruits and seed pods all turned brown and orange and fell from the trees and bushes to the ground. All the little animals burrowed into their holes to keep warm. The birds flew south, leaving the bare trees and their empty nests behind them. The ponds became frosty, the grasses turned brown, and the whole earth seemed cold and sad.

Now the North Wind came back leading the way for his master from the north, dancing and shrieking, "Make way for the King, the ruler of the whole world!"



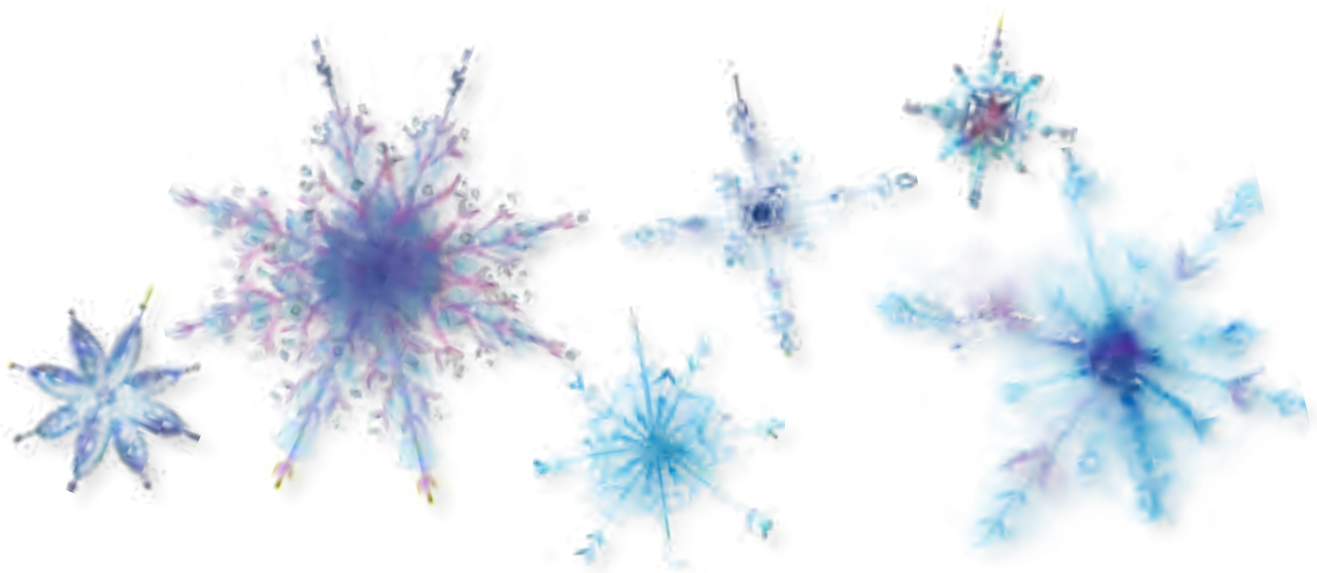
So came the great cold brother once more, with his freezing breath and his hosts of snowy soldiers. They came in the night and surprised the one who had come from the east. They drove him away, covered the fields and gardens with snow, froze the frosty ponds to solid ice, and put the world to sleep.

Year followed year as the four brothers fought each other for the sake of ruling the earth, but not one of them ever won. At last they agreed among themselves: "No one of us can win the earth. Let us ask the great Sun, the Father of Life on earth, to appoint one of us to be King. That will settle it and we can stop our fighting."

Whereupon, they called upon the Father Sun to settle their dispute, for they were tired of fighting. The Sun had, for many years, been watching their battles, and he had seen how each brother brought certain good things to the earth. And so the Sun spoke thus to the four brothers:

"No one of you should rule the earth, but rather each of you in turn, for you each bring good to the earth if you don't stay too long. Let each one rule in his season and then give place to another, in this order: The one who awakens the earth with his warm breath so that all the plants and animals spring to life, let him be called Spring. Let Spring do his work. Then let the hot one from the southern skies come to ripen all fruits and berries and grains. Let him be called Summer. Let Summer do his work, which ends when the seeds have fanned in the fruits. Then let the cool one from the east send forth his East Wind to blow the seeds to earth. And let him be called Fall, for in his time all leaves and seeds shall fall to the earth. Then let the cold one from the north take up his task and freeze the earth in a deep sleep and cover it with blankets of snow. Let him be called Winter. Let Winter rule the time of rest until Spring awakens the beings of earth again."

And so it happens that even today Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter share in ruling the earth, that the earth may work and rest, wake and sleep, according to the seasons.







# Gingerbread Man

B D Betteridge

Gin-ger bread, gin-ger bread, gin-ger bread man. Stir him up and roll him out and  
4 pat him in the pan! A rai - sin for a nose. In the  
6 o - ven now he goes. Gin - ger bread, gin - ger bread, gin - ger bread man.  
9 Bake him now and take him out as quick as ev - <sup>3</sup>er you can.





## Where Have All the Colors Gone?

Text adapted/ A.L.

Where have all the col- ors gone?  
Where have all the col- ors fled?

*Accompaniment on flute or humming.*

In- to sun- set, in- to dawn?  
In- to dawn's or sun- set's bed?

Red of ro-ses, green of grass, —  
All that's in our gar- den ri- ped

Who a- mong you saw them pass? —  
Folds with- in its cur- tain bright- ened

Pink of pop- py, corn- flower blue,  
Broid- ered on the west- ern sky

Tree- trunk brown or vio- let hue?  
O'er the bed where Day does lie.

Where have all the col- ors gone?  
Where have all the col- ors fled?

In- to sun- set, in- to dawn?  
To the dawn's or sun- set's bed?