

December



December Days and Events to Celebrate in the Classroom



December

28 Nov – 6 December Hannukah



Hannukah is the Jewish Festival of Lights which is celebrated by many around the world. This year Hannukah begins on 28 November and continues until 6 December.

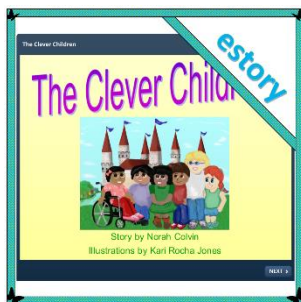
1 December [Eat a Red Apple Day](#)



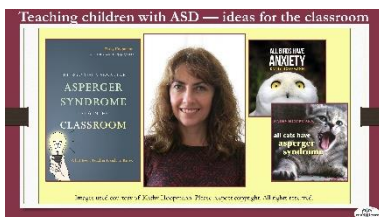
This is the perfect time to remind ourselves to eat healthy food, particularly as the party season is just beginning. When you have your Christmas parties, include a selection of healthy food on your menu.

3 December International Day of People with Disability

The aim of International Day of People with Disability is to develop an understanding of disability, promote respectful ways of relating to those with a disability, and create an awareness of the benefits of an inclusive society that takes the needs of people with a disability into consideration. "Disability Day is not concerned exclusively with either mental or physical disabilities, but rather encompasses all known disabilities, from Autism to Down Syndrome to Multiple Sclerosis."



The readlearn collection features a story [The Clever Children](#) that includes a child in a wheelchair.



Kathy's Hoopmann's book [The Essential Manual for Asperger Syndrome \(ASD\) in the Classroom](#) provides helpful advice for teachers.

Find out more in our post [Teaching Children with ASD — Ideas for the classroom](#).

December

3 December Make a Gift Day



Not only a perfect reminder that personal handmade gifts are special and to be treasured, it is also a perfect day on which children can make gifts for their parents and carers. They don't need to be elaborate. Child-made cards, books, bookmarks and other small items are gifts from the heart to be treasured.

For suggestions, refer to these previous posts:



[Classroom Activities for Celebrating Mother's Day](#)



[Celebrating Father's Day](#)



or download the **new free** [Make It Your Own 2022 Calendar](#) for children to personalise with a photo, drawing or verse. Easy to make, a treasure to keep.

4 December Wildlife Conservation Day



Wildlife Conservation Day aims to make people aware of wildlife crime. Animals all over the world, including endangered animals, are being illegally slaughtered for body parts and products and sold on the black market.

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People are urged to stand up for wildlife and not purchase products made from wildlife, especially from endangered animals. This is a perfect day for discussing and reading books about animals, watching nature documentaries or visiting a virtual zoo.

You could invite children to write and sign a pledge with actions they can take to look after the world's wildlife.

I will care for our wildlife.

Zoos and animals parks open for virtual visits

At [Explore.org livecams](#) you can visit animals in their natural habitat, on farms, and in zoos. You can see dogs, cats, bears, goats, manatees — there are so many different animals and environments to explore.

Just ten of the many other places also live streaming animals:

[Victoria Zoos](#)

[San Diego Zoo](#)

[Zoo Atlanta Panda Cam](#)

[Houston Zoo](#)

[Smithsonian's National Zoo](#)

[Edinburgh Zoo](#)

[African Wildlife](#)

[Monterey Bay Aquarium](#)

[Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta](#)

[Aquarium of the Pacific](#)



True to Life Books has [15 wildlife videos](#) taken by wildlife author and photographer Jan Latta. The aim of the videos is to educate children about endangered wildlife. Videos include tigers, sloths, meerkats, pandas and koalas.

December

6 - 12 December Computer Science Education Week



The purpose of Computer Science Education Week is to encourage everyone to get involved in teaching computer science. A great way to be involved is through the [Hour of Code](#). Great suggestions are available on the website. Even if your students don't have access to computers, they can still be involved offline.

You will also find a lot of additional information and activities on the [Ask A Tech Teacher](#) website, curated by Jacqui Murray.

10 December Human Rights Day

In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights "proclaimed the inalienable rights which everyone is inherently entitled to as a human being -- regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. It is the most translated document in the world, available in more than 500 languages."

The theme for 2021 is 'EQUALITY - Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights'.

11 December Gingerbread Decorating Day



Why not include a little gingerbread making and decorating in your program? Great for reading, maths, science and creativity.

At the very least, read or retell *The Gingerbread Man*.

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24 December [Jolabokaflod](#)



Jolabokaflod or 'Christmas Book Flood' is a tradition from Iceland that would be great to follow world-wide. Books are always given as gifts at Christmas time. On Christmas Eve, when the gifts are traditionally opened, everyone immediately reads the books they have received.

Here at readilearn, we love books and reading, and often share interviews with picture book authors and illustrators or review their books. We also compile lists of books on various topics. To access these to assist in your choice of picture books to gift, simply put '[picture books](#)' in the search bar to find what we have shared.

25 December [Christmas Day](#)



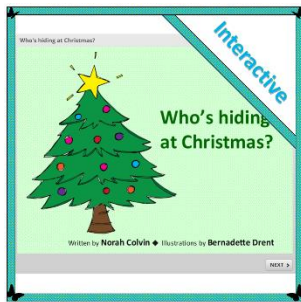
Christmas Day is observed by many around the world. For Christians, it is a holy day celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. For others it has no religious significance, but is seen as a special holiday, a time to get together with family and friends.

For a full list of readilearn Christmas-themed lessons and activities, see the [Christmas](#) section of the Cultural Studies resources. These are just a few:



[How to make a friendship tree](#)

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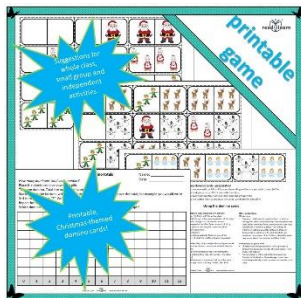
[Who's Hiding at Christmas](#)



[Which Gift? Playing Secret Santa — a logic puzzle](#)



[Christmas Poems](#)



[Christmas domino cards](#)



[Christmas Activity Book](#)

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31 December **New Year's Eve**



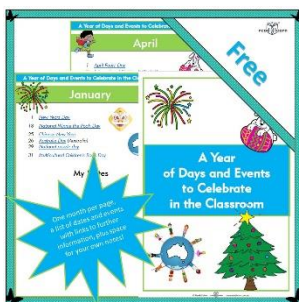
Celebrations occur all over the world as people stay up past midnight to see in the new year. While it is often a tradition for people to make resolutions with the beginning of a new year, the tradition to break them can be just as common.

Next year, 2022, will be the [International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture](#)

and the [International Year of Glass](#).



The year at a glance



A printable copy of a calendar of special days and events for the year 2021 is available to download free [here](#).