Celebrating Christmas

The Story of Christmas
Christmas is the day that marks the birth of Jesus Christ. He was born more than 2000 years ago in Bethlehem. This city is now in the country of Israel. In the Christian faith, Jesus is the Son of God. Christmas is celebrated on December 25, although the real birth date of Jesus is unknown.

The Celebration of Christmas
The Christmas holiday has many traditions. People celebrate by sending cards, cooking special foods, and singing songs. Christmas trees and Santa Claus are very popular symbols of Christmas. On Christmas, Santa Claus brings gifts to children. In other countries he is known as Father Christmas, Saint Nicholas, and Kris Kringle. While the children are sleeping, Santa Claus leaves presents under the Christmas tree. Families and friends also give each other gifts as part of this celebration.
A Christmas Tradition

A Christmas tree is a symbol of Christmas. The tradition began in Germany. Originally, Christmas trees were evergreen trees. They were cut fresh from the forest. Christmas trees are decorated with lights and ornaments. Today there are artificial trees that come in all shapes and colors.

Christmas trees are decorated with ornaments. To make a snowman ornament you will need these materials:

- a round cotton pad (the kind used to remove make-up)
- fabric starch
- a small sock
- fabric paint in black and orange
- ribbon
- glue

Begin by brushing fabric starch on the front and back of the round cotton pad. Do one side at a time. Let it dry before turning it over. It may need to dry overnight. This is the snowman’s face.

Cut off the top of a small sock, just above the heel. Glue the sock to the top of the face as a hat. Tie a ribbon around the sock to make a bow on the hat.

Using fabric paint, paint black dots onto the face for the mouth and eyes. Use orange paint for the carrot nose. Let the paint dry.

Use another piece of ribbon and tie it into a loop. Glue the ribbon loop to the back of the hat. This is the loop to hang the ornament on your Christmas tree.
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