

FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION 2022

5

Fun Christmas
ISSUES IN ONE!



Includes

CRAFTS, jokes, A MAD LIB, DEVOTION,
WORD SEARCH, STEM activity & MORE!



Fun Christmas ISSUES IN ONE!

FOR **GIRLS** Like **YOU**

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION 2022

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Wynter's Words

DEVOTIONALS & MORE TO GROW YOUR FAITH

Saying YES to JOY

I HOPE YOU KNOW THE FUN SONG that starts like this: "I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart. Where? Down in my heart..." The upbeat tune and the hand motions do make this a fun song for everyone. But more important, the words are full of truth.

Joy, like love, is much more than something you feel when everything is going great. Joy is something you can have however hard life is at the moment when you remember that you are God's chosen daughter. And like love, joy grows in your heart because God lives in you.

When I was a little girl, I sang that joy-joy-joy song all the time, but it took me a long time to realize that even when things around me were sad and life was hard, I could still have the joy I was singing about.

A lot of sad things happened where I grew up. My neighborhood wasn't very safe, and we didn't have a lot of money. My mother, my brother and I lived with my grandmother. I was grateful for a warm home to live in, but it wasn't fancy. Even with these not-so-good circumstances, my grandmother always seemed to have the biggest smile on her face. So how did my grandmother manage to keep smiling in her difficult situation?

You know the answer. She relied on God to give her the strength she needed, and He gave her His joy. My grandmother was full of joy because of her relationship with God. The joy that God gives does not depend on anyone else's actions or your circumstances. Joy comes from God living in us, and the joy is there regardless of what is happening around us. And the Bible tells us that God's joy makes us strong.

I can remember seeing my grandmother sitting quietly on the edge of her bed with tears streaming down her

face. That may not sound happy to you, and it didn't seem that way to me either. But whenever I asked her what was wrong, she would smile (even with tears) and say, "Oh, I'm talking to Jesus."

I was so confused by her answer. I never really understood what she meant or why talking to Jesus would make her cry. I thought talking to Jesus was supposed to fix the bad things that were happening around us.

Well, now I understand exactly what she was saying. My grandmother knew that she was God's child, and because of that, she had joy inside. She simply had to say yes to the joy God had made available to her. Even though things were hardly picture perfect, Mama's joy was not connected to good things or bad things. Her joy was connected to God Himself. The circumstances of our lives will change all the time, but we can have joy in our hearts because God never changes. We have joy because of who lives inside us; our joy doesn't depend on what is happening around us.

Not many people understood how my grandmother could smile so much, and she was always eager to explain it to them. She loved telling people about Jesus and the joy she had because of His love. Having joy in her heart helped her be grateful in any situation—and it can help us too. Also, my grandmother was always willing to help people around her even when she needed help herself. And Mama gave me a real-life example of this verse:

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice. Let everyone see your gentleness (Philippians 4:4-5 NET).

Do you see the connection between joy and gentleness? How would you treat those around you if you always remember that God's joy is in your heart?

From God's Girl Says Yes by Wynter Pitts. Courtesy of Harvest House Publishers.



A SPACE TO CREATE & HAVE FUN!

GLITTER AND GLO!

In the spirit of this issue's message of GIVING—here's a crafty idea for sparkly Christmas tree ornaments that you can make yourself, and give as gifts to all of your favorite people!

(And here's a crazy idea ... when you're finished making all of your magnificent creations, use the MOP & GLO that's left and clean up your workspace! Your parents will think that is the best gift of all!)

WE'D LOVE TO SEE WHAT YOU CREATE! SEND US YOUR PHOTOS!



SUPPLY LIST

- glass ornaments
- Mop & Glo
- extra fine glitter
- funnel or paper cone
- decorations: stickers, paint pens, etc.



1. Pour about one tablespoon of Mop & Glo into an ornament and gently swirl to coat the inside. Pour out the excess.



2. Using a funnel or paper cone, pour several tablespoons of glitter into ornament.



3. Replace the ornament cap and swirl to coat. Add more Mop & Glo and glitter if needed to cover entire ornament.



4. Pour out the excess glitter and replace ornament cap.



5. Decorate, decorate, decorate!



Here we applied stickers to create a fun look!



We drew this gingerbread face with oil-based paint pens.



For another spin on the ornaments, try mixing different colors of glitter to create a marbled effect.

Guess whAT?

PUZZLES, GAMES & LOTS OF FUN!

FIRST NAME=

THE MONTH YOU WERE BORN

January – Sprinkles
February – Gumdrop
March – Twinkle
April – Smiley
May – Giggles
June – Jellybean
July – RazzleDazzle
August – Sparkles
September – CandyCane
October – Sunshine
November – Marshmallow
December – Jingles

LAST NAME=

YOUR FAVORITE COLOR

Blue – Tinsel Toes
Brown – Candy Crusher
Green – Gingerbread Head
Orange – Gummy Bear Breath
Pink – Peppermint Pants
Purple – Jinglebell Jumper
Red – Sugarplum Shaker
Yellow – Fudgy Feet



Have your friends or family fill in the blanks by giving you a **NOUN** or a **VERB** or **WHATEVER WE ASK FOR**—and then surprise everyone with the hilarious story “they” wrote!

A/n

Adjective

CHRISTMAS MORNING



IT WAS CHRISTMAS MORNING, SO I STARTED TO _____ DOWN THE _____ TO SEE WHAT MIGHT BE

Verb

Noun

UNDER THE _____ FOR ME! _____ I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT! THERE UNDER THE TREE WAS A _____

Noun

Exclamation

Color

_____ AND IT WAS SAYING _____ OVER AND OVER! _____ AND _____

Adjective

Noun

Sound

Person

Person

SAID I BETTER _____ IT! I WAS SO _____ ! BEFORE I KNEW IT, THE _____ THING JUMPED

Verb

Emotion

Adjective

IN MY ARMS AND _____ . I STARTED TO SING _____ WITH A/N _____ VOICE AND THAT

Past-tense Verb

Christmas Song

Adjective

MADE EVERYONE _____ . WAIT! WHAT WAS THAT SMELL COMING FROM THE _____ ? OH NO! _____

Verb

Room in House

Person

MUST HAVE _____ THE _____ AND _____ ! OH WELL, AT LEAST WE STILL HAVE _____

Past-tense Verb

Plural Noun

Food

Vegetable

AND _____ ! **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Favorite Present

WHAT'S YOUR
ELF NAME?



Unscramble the letters to discover words about the first Christmas night!

Y A R M
S E H D R H P E
L A G N E
E L B E E M H T H
P O J E S H
A R M E N G
A R S T

CHRISTMAS WORD
SCRAMBLE

CHRISTMAS
MAD LIB

LOL

HAHAHA!



JOKES, FUNNIES & MORE!

What did Adam say
on December 24th?
It's Christmas, Eve!



What is the best
Christmas present in
the world?
A broken drum.
You just can't beat it!

Knock knock.
Who's there?
Norma Lee.
Norma Lee who?
Norma Lee I don't
eat this much!

WHAT DID ONE SNOWMAN
SAY TO THE OTHER SNOWMAN?
Do you smell carrots?



Why did the gingerbread
man go to the doctor?

Because he was
feeling crummy!



What do snowmen like
to do on the weekend?
Chill out!

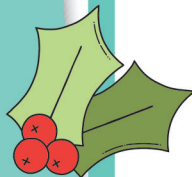
Here are some
holiday tongue
twisters to try!

Thirsty turkeys
talked Thursday.

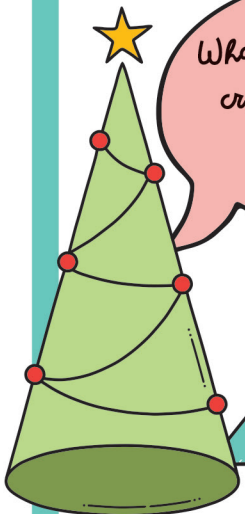
Greedy gobblers
grabbed the gravy.

Red holly berry.
Yellow holly berry.

Santa's short suit shrunk.



What do you get if you
cross an iPad with a
Christmas tree?
A Pine-Apple!



WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN
YOU CROSS A BELL
WITH A SKUNK?
Jingle smells!

Knock knock. **Who's there?**
Murray. Murray who?
Murray Christmas
and a Happy New Year!



SEND US YOUR FAVORITE LOLS! What jokes make you laugh? Have a great riddle to stump us? Have you drawn a cartoon you'd like to share? Anything funny at all—we want to hear from you! Email LOL@forgirlslikeyou.com!





A SPACE TO CREATE & HAVE FUN!

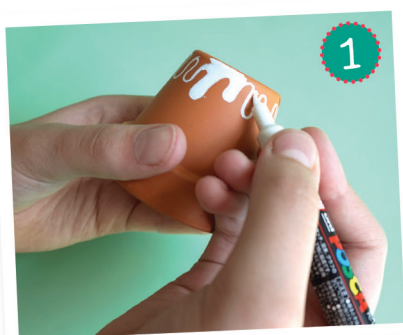
HOMEMADE FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE!

No baking skills needed! Make your own gingerbread-house ornaments with mini pots, paint pens and ribbon!



SUPPLY LIST

- paint pens
- mini terracotta pots
- white acrylic paint
- glitter paint (optional)
- bells
- ribbon
- paintbrush



Start by drawing snow dripping down from the top of your pot and color it in with the paint pen. Leave the top blank, we'll paint that later.



Draw a door and window on your house.



Add candy decorations all around the house. We drew gumdrops, lollipops and peppermints.



Use white acrylic paint and cover the top of your pot.



Paint the rim of your house with the white paint as well. Once the white paint is dry, we added a layer of glitter paint on top of the white to give it added sparkle.



String a small bell onto your ribbon and thread both ends through the hole in the pot. Then tie a knot in the ribbon to secure.



Don't forget to sign your name & add the date before hanging on the tree!

Project adapted from Projectswithkids.com



Guess whAT?

PUZZLES, GAMES & LOTS OF FUN!

CoLoR



JoyfuL!

I'VE GOT THE Joy...

Can you guess
which Christmas
carols these "joy"
lines are from?

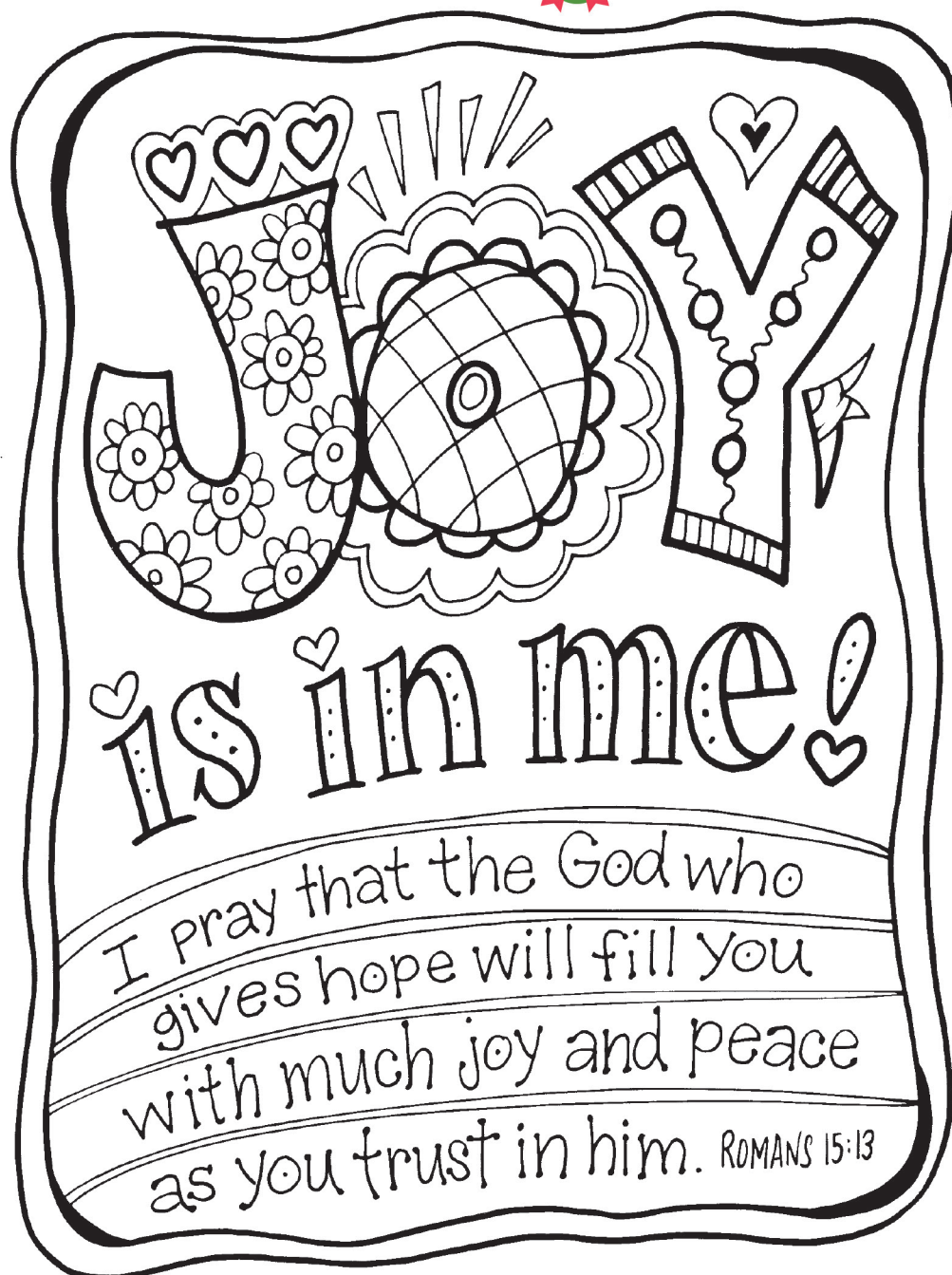
1. Joyful
all ye nations
rise...

2. Oh, tidings
of comfort
and JOY...

3. Repeat
the sounding
JOY...

4. ...JOYful
and triumphant,
O come...

5. Sweet
hymns of
JOY in grateful
chorus raise
we...



Coloring page from You're God's Girl Coloring Book by Wynter Pitts and Julia Ryan, Harvest House Publishers
Answers: 1. "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" 2. "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" 3. "Joy to the World" 4. "O Come All Ye Faithful" 5. "O Holy Night"

DIRECTIONS: FIND THE HIGHLIGHTED WORDS IN THE VERSE BELOW IN OUR TREE-SHAPED WORD SEARCH PUZZLE.

FINDING CHRISTMAS

And the **ANGEL** said unto them, **FEAR** not: for, **BEHOLD**, I **BRING** you good **TIDINGS** of great **JOY**, which shall be to all **PEOPLE**. For unto you is **BORN** this day in the **CITY** of **DAVID** a **SAVIOR**, which is **CHRIST** the **LORD**. And this will be a **SIGN** for you: you will find a **BABY** wrapped in **SWADDLING** cloths and lying in a **MANGER**.

And **SUDDENLY** there was with the angel a **MULTITUDE** of the **HEAVENLY** host praising God. **GLORY** to God in the **HIGHEST**, and on earth **PEACE**, good will **TOWARD** men.

LUKE 2:10 - Luke 2:14

DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY TIME AT CHRISTMAS WHEN YOU READ THE CHRISTMAS STORY TOGETHER?

These beautiful words have been shared around our trees and around the world for hundreds of years! It is the beginning of "the greatest story ever told" and the reason for our wonderful hope in Jesus.





A SPACE TO CREATE & HAVE FUN!

ORIGAMI CHRISTMAS TREES!



Put your old issues of **For Girls Like You Magazine** to good use and make these adorable origami Christmas Trees to add some holiday cheer to any room!



SUPPLY LIST
-old magazines
-spray paint
-ribbon/decorations
-hot glue gun



Remove the magazine cover and fold down each page as shown above. Fold the rest of the pages the same way.



Make sure this fold overlaps about two inches.



Take the bottom right corner and fold it up as shown above.

Folding Tip: Use the previous page to crease the below page to ensure even folds.



Starting on the second page, hold the bottom left corner and roll the page into the center. Pinch the top down an inch to create a sharp tip.



Pinch the top!



Continue rolling each page into the center and pinching the tops.



Now it's time to decorate! We spray painted the trees and added embellishments with hot glue.

SWEDISH STAR ORNAMENTS

OUR ART DIRECTOR **MARY** SHARES HER FAMILY'S CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

My great-grandma moved to the United States from Sweden when she was only a teenager. Thanks to my grandma, **Maxine**, we grew up with many Swedish Christmas traditions. Every Christmas Eve, we had a big family dinner that included a special homemade Swedish cheesecake dessert called *ostkaka* with lingonberry sauce. My grandma would spend hours making the custard from milk we picked up at the local dairy farm. We also always served a stinky white fish called *lutefisk* — which I was never brave enough to eat! My grandma and her sisters always blessed our dinner with a traditional Swedish prayer. We also decorate our trees with traditional Swedish straw ornaments. They are handmade intricate designs. Here is how you can make a simple star inspired by my favorite Swedish ornaments.



Grandma Maxine with my daughter Lily at Christmas

SWEDEN



SUPPLIES: wheat stalks (we ordered from Amazon) • scissors • red embroidery floss • ruler • baking dish



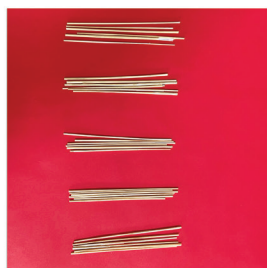
1. Trim the tops of the 30 pieces of wheat. Soak the stalks in water for an hour to make them more flexible.



2. Measure and cut one piece of wheat to 6 inches long.



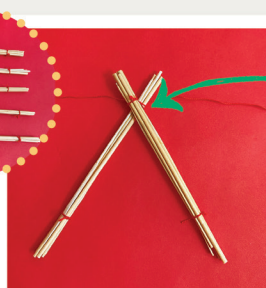
3. Using your first cut piece as a guide, trim the rest of the 29 pieces to 6 inches long.



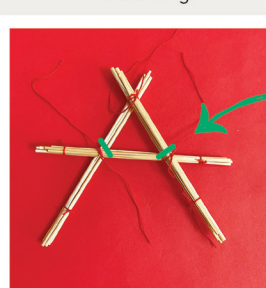
4. Divide the wheat into 5 piles with 6 sticks each.



5. Using two 6-inch pieces of embroidery floss, tie double knots tightly on both ends of each of the six bundles.



6. Tie two bundles together tightly with double knots.



7. Add the third bundle and be sure it is under the right side and over the left. Tie it at the 2 joints marked in green.



8. Add the fourth bundle and secure at green-marked areas.



9. Attach the last bundle and secure at the green markings. Trim any extra strings once done.



10. Evenly trim all the ends of the star and wrap extra embroidery floss around each point and secure with knots. Add ribbon to the top and hang on your tree!



Family Swedish Prayer

CHRISTMAS CAROL WREATH

MAKE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS CAROL WREATH

An easy-to-create musical decoration to celebrate the beautiful sounds of the season!

Supplies

- Cardboard or paper plate
- 20 printed Christmas carols (search online for "Free printable Christmas carols")
- Ribbon, yarn or cord
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Plate
- Cup
- Ornaments
- Jingle bells (optional)



1.

Use a plate to trace a circle on a piece of cardboard. (If using a paper plate, skip this step.)



2.

Use a cup to trace a smaller circle in the center of the larger one. (Make sure the smaller circle is slightly smaller than your main ornament.)



3.

Cut out your cardboard ring and tie yarn or chord into a loop around the ring for hanging your wreath up later.



4.

Cut or tear your carols in half. Roll each half into a cone shape and staple evenly around your cardboard ring.



5.

Add a second layer of rolled carols.



6.

If you have open space on the back, not hidden by your ornaments, you can tape or glue a small piece of carol paper to cover the space.



7.

Use your creativity to decorate your wreath with ribbon, jingle bells, or whatever ornaments you wish!



STEM *girls*

STEM
GIRLS

SCIENCE FUN WITH THE DENTON DUO

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR? A Watery Christmas Tune With STEM!



Did you know you can make your own musical instrument? Sounds are made by vibrations, and we use our science smarts to make our own Christmas Water Piano!

vibrating and do so more slowly. This makes a lower-pitched sound. When you change the amount of water, you change how the glass is vibrating!

FUN FACT:

Sound travels well under water because the molecules of water are closer together than air molecules. This means that underwater sounds can travel very far! Dolphins and whales can talk to other dolphins and whales more than a mile away!



Here's How



1. Tint some water red and green. (This is optional but really fun!)



2. Gather seven glasses and put different amounts of water in each glass. For example, have one glass almost full, one glass half full, one glass almost empty, etc.



3. Use a spoon to tap on the glasses, one at a time.

Try and get your glasses to make a seven-note scale

(do-re-mi-fa-so-la-ti-do)

by adjusting the amount of water in each one.

Once you get the notes sorted out, you can use it to play all sorts of fun music!

So, what is happening?

The glasses with different amounts of water make different sounds. We can hear sounds because the air around us is vibrating. Those vibrations enter our ears and the information from those vibrations are sent to our brain.

When you hit the glass, the spoon causes it to vibrate and make a sound that we can hear. If your glass is nearly empty of water, that means that it is *FULL* with air. Glasses that are full of air vibrate much more quickly and make a higher-pitched sound. When a glass is *FULL* of water, there isn't much air at all. Glasses that are *FULL* have a harder time

TRY IT!

If you managed to create a seven-note scale with your seven glasses, here is a simple Christmas song you can try to play. (You might need a parent or music teacher to help you set the glasses in C-D-E-F-G-A-B-C order!)



AWAY IN A MANGER

G-G-F-E-E-D-C-C-B-A-G

Away in a manger no crib for a bed

G-A-D-D-G-B-A-G-C-E

The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head

G-G-F-E-E-D-C-C-B-A-G

The stars in the bright sky look down where He lay

G-F-E-D-E-D-C-D-A-B-C

The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

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