

# Activity 5: Holiday Celebrations

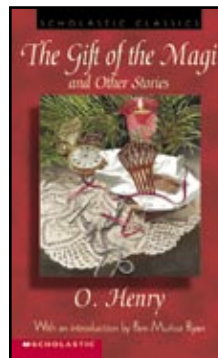
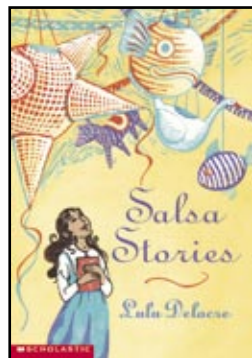
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IDEA**

## Holidays

Holidays offer opportunities to customize fun distributions that will excite children .

**Books to Highlight:** Choose books that correspond to holidays. Examples are:

- *The Night Before Summer Vacation* by Natasha Wing (ages 5-8)
- *Salsa Stories* by Lulu Delacre (ages 8-12)
- *Scholastic Classics: The Gift of the Magi and Other Stories* by O. Henry (ages 9-12)
- *Clifford's First Halloween* by Norman Bridwell (ages 4-8)



**Arts and Crafts:** Customize your crafts to correspond with the holiday children are celebrating. For example:

- Younger children can create hand turkeys for Thanksgiving.
- Even teens would enjoy creating snowflakes for winter holidays.
- Decorating paper jack o lanterns are a fun way to celebrate Halloween.

For professional ideas of how to incorporate holiday crafts into your distribution check out: *The Scholastic Big Book of Holidays Around the Year*.



**Community Involvement:** Holidays are a good time to encourage community service. Perhaps the designs students create in your distribution can be used to decorate a Thanksgiving soup kitchen or a shelter. Work with your community partners to find ways to for your children's art displays to be showcased locally.



**Time of Year:** Check your calendar and consider your populations when you use holidays as a theme. Each community celebrates holidays in unique ways. Before you decide which holiday to showcase, talk to community leaders about your choice. They may have ideas on how to best customize the holiday for their children.



**Questions to Engage Children:**

- How do you celebrate holidays?
- Are books an important part of holidays? Why or Why not?
- Which "stories" are used to celebrate this holiday?