

CHRISTMAS SIGNS

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According to a dictionary for boys and girls, a **sign** is a symbol or something that stands for something else. It may be a motion or gesture that expresses a command or a wish; as, she gave him a **sign** to sing. It may be a lettered cardboard; as a "For Sale" **sign**. A **sign** may also show what may come or happen; as, black clouds are a **sign** of rain.

Can you guess a holiday by its signs? During what holidays do you see these things?

Wreaths, flowers, and crosses
Red hearts and cupids
Pink and white flowers
Planting of trees

Here is a poem that gives a few Christmas signs. Read it carefully and find out what the Christmas signs are.

CHRISTMAS SIGNS

Red and green are Christmas colors,
Poinsettias are Christmas flow'rs,
Christmas cards give all the message
Made just for these peaceful hours.

Christmas trees hold all the pleasure,
Gifts in boxes red and green,
Candies tempting in gay wrappers—
These on Christmas are all seen.

Carols sweet and clear and happy
Wide proclaim this joyful day,
And they usher to all men's hearts
Christmas thoughts, good will alway.

Christmas day is day of plenty,
Day of happiness, day of cheer—
Day of blessings for all mankind,
Day when God is very near.

These and more are Christmas
symbols,
Signs of this one pleasant day—
When goodwill and love abounding
Fill all hearts and make them gay.

THINGS TO DO:

I. Choose the correct answer or answers:

1. What are the Christmas colors?
white green blue
orange pink red
purple yellow violet
2. What is the Christmas flower?
sampaguita ilang-ilang camia
gumamela poinsettia gardenia
adelfa kalachuchi mileguas
3. What do Christmas cards give?
candy money message
fruit chimney gift boxes
Santa Claus cards candles

II. Read aloud the stanza that tells:

1. What "fill all hearts and make them gay."
2. What proclaim Christmas.
3. Why Christmas is a day "when God is very near."

III. Read the last two lines of the first stanza. Here are a few Christmas greetings you might read on some Christmas cards. Can you add at least one Christmas greeting to these messages?

Merry Christmas!
The Season's Greetings!
Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men!
Holiday Greetings!
Glad Tidings!

IV. Read the third stanza. Here are a few carols often sung at Christmas. What other Christmas carols have you heard?

Silent Night The First Noel
Glad Christmas Bells
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing
O, Little Town of Bethlehem
It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

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