

# CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

## CUBE CODE



**STATION 2:**  
First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

**STATION 3:**  
Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. After you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. The code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

**CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD**  
Christmas traditions vary around the world due to a combination of historical, cultural and religious influences. Regardless of how the holiday is celebrated, each country embraces the holiday spirit and family bonding.

**Norway:** There is no cleaning done on Christmas Eve and people actually hide their brooms. Legends say that on Christmas Eve witches visit homes looking for brooms to ride on. In Norway, children wait for 'Julenisse', the Norwegian name for Santa Claus. Presents are brought by small gnomes called 'Nisse'. The most famous Christmas tradition in Norway is the gift of a Christmas Tree to the United Kingdom every year. The tree is given as 'thank you' for the help that the UK gave to Norway during World War II. The tree stands in Trafalgar Square in London.

**Ukraine:** Christmas is celebrated on January 7th. Families do not use spider webs similar to the ones seen in the Philippines. Instead, they can see in the sky magic spider webs similar to the ones seen in the Philippines. Instead, they can see in the sky magic spider webs similar to the ones seen in the Philippines.

**Japan:** In Japan, when did replacing turkey with chicken become a popular tradition?  
A. 1940  
B. 1950  
C. 1960  
D. 1970

**Philippines:** The FIRST number of the lock is the number of strings a 'Cuatro' has MINUS 1.  
The THIRD number of the lock is the year the "Giant Lantern Festival" began in the Philippines MINUS 1900.

**Germany:** Christmas is celebrated on December 25th. The most popular Christmas decoration in Germany is 'kutia'.

**Slovakia:** Christmas is celebrated on December 24th. The most popular Christmas decoration in Slovakia is known as 'kutia'.

**Australia:** Christmas is in the summer in Australia, so children build snowmen out of sand.

**Venezuela:** On Christmas Day in Venezuela, families head to church on bicycles.

**Russia:** Russian Christmas cookies called 'Kozulya' are shaped like a sheep, goat or deer.

**Norway:** In Norway, children wait for 'Julenisse', the Norwegian name for Santa Claus.

**USA:** The Constitution is organized into seven different parts called Articles.  
The Constitutional Convention was held in Boston, Massachusetts.  
The 3 branches include the Legislative, Executive and Parliament Branch.  
The first ten amendments came in 1791 and are called the Bill of Rights.  
Before the Constitution, a strong federal government held the states together.  
The opening part of the Constitution is called the Preamble.  
George Washington was known as the 'Father of the Constitution'.  
The U.S. Constitution is the oldest government document still in use today.

**4 DIGIT CODE:** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**ELIMINATE:** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**THINK TANK**

### STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning skills to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

### STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an ODD numbered paragraph, leaving only EVEN numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

### STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

### STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order.

### STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, simply put a zero in the box.

### STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

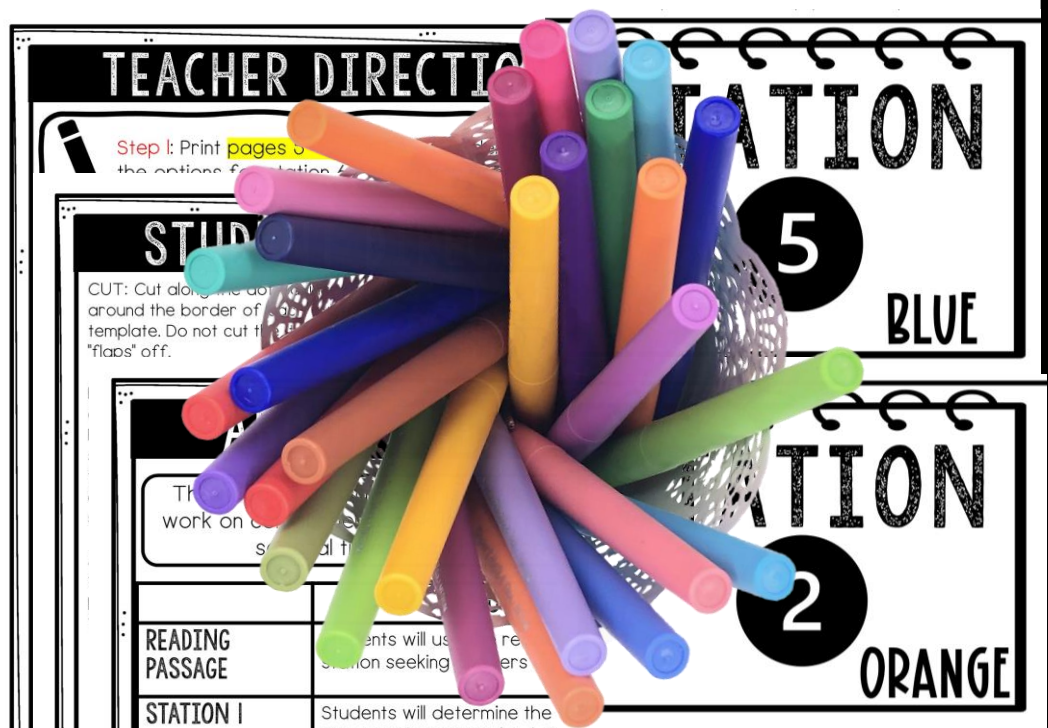
# STATION

# 1

# RED

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- READING PASSAGE
- 6 STATIONS
- TEACHER GUIDE
- STATION CARDS
- ANSWER KEY
- STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- TEXT MARKING OPTION
- ALTERNATE STATION
- ASSEMBLY TIPS



# 6 STATIONS

## STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. The missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

1	kutia	4	Kite	7	December
2	kitska	5	Lantern	8	January
3	Balloon	6	metal	9	bamboo

Ukraine: Christmas in Ukraine is celebrated on ...  
 7th. Families with spirit believe that magic spells turn the web into gold. They can't see in the sweet Phillipine decorations in the Philippines with a lighted star lantern on it. It is made from bamboo strips and colored Japanese paper which represent

STATION

1

RED

## STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

STATION

6

## STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the 'clues' below are NOT in order.

The LAST number of the lock is the number of dishes a 'veliija' dinner in Slovakia includes MINUS 5.

The SECOND number of the lock is the double of the first number.

STATION

4

GREEN

## STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, put a zero in the box.

What are Sternsinger?

- A. Star singers
- B. Deer-shaped cookies
- C. Hot chocolate
- D. Bamboo

In what country is Merry Christmas said as 'Frohe Weihnachten'?

- A. Germany
- B. Philippines

What color are brooms made of?

- A. Australia
- B. Norway
- C. Russia
- D. Japan

How many teams compete in the Global competition in the Philippines?

- A. 11
- B. 17
- C. 24
- D. 30

- A. Historical significance
- B. Cultural aspect
- C. Religious influences
- D. All of the above

STATION

5

BLUE

A  B  C  D

## STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the question. If the statement is false, do not color or shade the coin. One coin has been colored. The 4-digit code has been revealed. The first box is empty.

STATION

3

YELLOW

A 75

B 25

C 50

D 100

- C. On Christmas Day, Venezuelan families head to church on bicycles.
- D. Russian Christmas cakes called 'rozulya' are shaped like a sheep or goat.
- E. In Norway, children wait for 'Jul' (Yule), the Norwegian name for Santa Claus.
- F. Christmas dinner in Slovakia is known as 'veliija'.
- G. The most popular Christmas decoration in the Philippines is 'tambuli'.
- H. Tradition in Germany has children leaving a pickle in the Christmas stocking.

4 DIGIT CODE

## STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final answer. The 4-digit code is revealed. Paragraph numbers are listed in the boxes below.

STATION

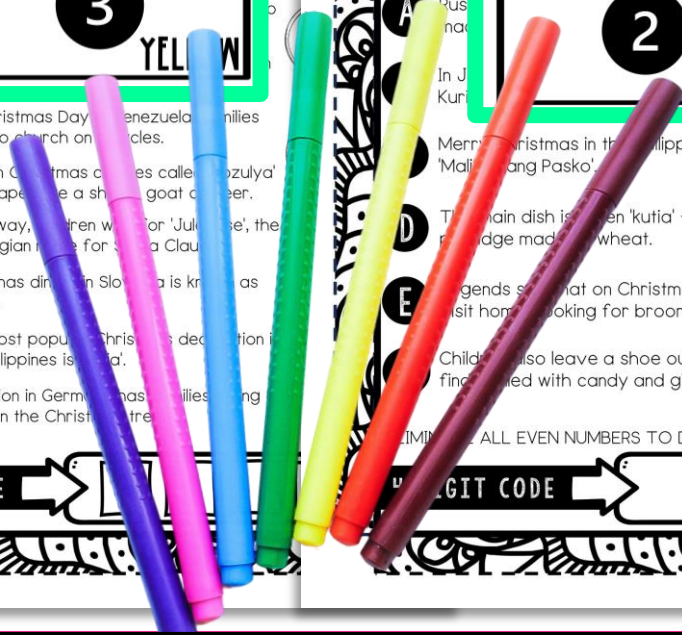
2

ORANGE

- A. In Japan, children leave a shoe outside and wake to find it filled with candy and gifts.
- B. Merry Christmas in the Philippines is 'Maligayang Pasko'.
- C. The main dish is often 'kutia' - a type of sweet porridge made with wheat.
- D. Legends say that on Christmas Eve witches visit homes looking for brooms to ride on.
- E. Children also leave a shoe outside and wake to find it filled with candy and gifts.

ELIMINATE ALL EVEN NUMBERS TO DETERMINE THE FINAL CODE.

4 DIGIT CODE



# SAMPLE CUBE



# STATIONS

STATION 1	Students will determine the missing words in the paragraph to reveal a 4 digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs and browse the passage to determine where the answers can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating EVEN numbers, a 4 digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false. They will then ADD all TRUE values to find the 4 digit code.
STATION 4	Students will do some basic math here, read the passage to find the answers and then determine the 4 digit code.
STATION 5	Students will answer 6 multiple choice questions which lead them to a 4 digit code based on the number of times they used each "answer".
STATION 6	Option 1: Main idea writing activity Option 2: Color and add topic
TEXT MARKING	OPTIONAL: A color code chart is included in case you want students to mark the text citing evidence of where they found their answers.

**STUDENTS WILL  
USE THE SAME  
READING  
PASSAGE AT  
EACH STATION  
SEEKING  
ANSWERS AND  
TEXT EVIDENCE.**

# HOW IT WORKS



## ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

1

Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit 6 stations, grabbing one side of their cube at each station.

2

Students will answer the questions (found directly in the passage) on their cube sheet before assembly. Students will revisit their reading passage at EACH station!

3

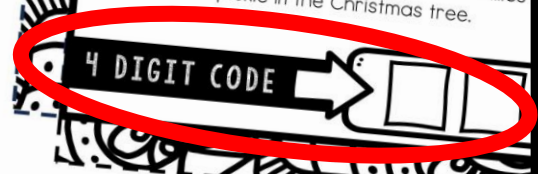
Students will reveal 4-digit codes to move on to the next station. When they finish all stations, they can color and assemble their cube.

**STATION**

Read each statement below and determine if the statement is true, color or shade the corresponding question. If the statement is false, cross it out. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE statements. A code has been provided for you. If the total is 75, the 1 in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

A. Christmas is in the summer in Japan.  
B. Christmas is an official national holiday in Japan.  
C. On Christmas Day in Venezuela, children go to church on bicycles.  
D. Russian Christmas cookies called 'bûchki' are shaped like a sheep, goat or reindeer.  
E. In Norway, children wait for 'Jul' which is the Norwegian name for Santa Claus.  
F. Christmas dinner in Slovakia is known as 'veľkaja'.  
G. The most popular Christmas decoration in the Philippines is 'kutia'.  
H. Tradition in Germany has families hang a pickle in the Christmas tree.

4 DIGIT CODE



# COMBINATION



**Each Cube Code is a winning combination of:**


- stations and movement
- close reading
- comprehension skills
- coloring and stress relief
- secret codes
- cut and paste
- citing evidence
- critical thinking

**Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!**

# BENEFITS



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!

-  ANTICIPATORY SETS
-  UNIT REVIEW
-  EARLY FINISHERS
-  STATIONS
-  SUB PLANS
-  PARTNER WORK
-  ENRICHMENT

-  HANDS-ON
-  CROSS-CURRICULAR
-  HIGHLY ENGAGING

