

December: A Time to Celebrate

Are you looking for something fun and educational to do at home? Check out these library recommended STEAM activities, programs, podcasts and more! Click the links to visit activities and books.

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SCIENCE

National Cotton Candy Day: Dec 7

Activities:

[How to Make Cotton Candy in 6 Easy Steps](#) – All Ages

[Better Than Cotton Candy: Easy, Homemade Maple Spun Sugar](#) – All Ages

[7 No Bake Christmas Candy Recipes Kids Can Make](#) – Ages 7 to 12

[Homemade Healthy Gummies](#) - Ages 7 to 10

Books to Read:

[Maya and the Cotton Candy Boy](#) by Jean Okimoto

[Harriet's Halloween Candy](#) by Nancy Carlson

[I Spy a Candy Cane](#) by Jean Marzollo

Interesting Facts about Cotton Candy: The Cotton Candy machine was patented in 1899 by William Morrison and John C. Wharton. They brought it to the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904, where it was quite popular. Cotton Candy is a favorite at amusement parks, circuses, fairs, and sports venues.



International Children's Day: Dec 13

Activities:

[Infinity Cube Fidget Toy DIY](#) – Ages 4 to 12

[I'm Special Poster](#) – Ages 4 to 8

[Faces of the World Necklace](#) – Ages 6 to 12

Books to Read:

[Pan De Sal Saves the Day](#) by Norma Olizon-Chikiamco

[If You're Thankful and You Know It](#) by Chrissy Bozik

[The Day You Begin](#) by Jacqueline Woodson

Interesting Fact about International Children's Day: The second Sunday in December. This is a joint initiative between UNICEF and the International Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. It's a day when broadcasters "tune in to kids".

ART

Christmas Day: Dec 25

Activities:

[Snowmen Tin Can Bowling Pins](#) – All Ages

[Handprint Art Santa Jars](#) – All Ages

[How To Make Perfect Fake Snow](#) – All Ages

Books to Read:

[Christmas! Things to Make and Do](#) by Christina Goodings

[Was that Christmas?](#) by Hilary McKay

[It's Christmas!](#) by Jack Prelutsky

Interesting Facts about Christmas: The origin or the use of Christmas trees goes way back to ancient Egyptians and Romans. They used evergreen trees like fir or pine trees, wreaths, and garlands. And the use of modern Christmas trees started in Germany in the 16th century. Instead of the glitzy decorations that we see on them today, they were decorated with fruits and nuts.

National Bicarbonate of Soda (Baking Soda) Day: Dec 30

Activities:

[Homemade Bottle Rockets](#) – Backyard Science - Ages 10 to 15

[Hatch Dinosaur Eggs with Science](#) - Ages 5 to 12

[STEAM Christmas Tree](#) – Ages 7 to 11

Books to Read:

[The Baking Soda Companion](#) by Suzy Scherr

[501 Amazing Uses for Salt, Vinegar, Baking Soda, Olive Oil & Lemons](#) by Laura Westdale

Interesting Fact about Baking Soda: Many people just think of Bicarbonate of Soda as something you use for baking. But, it has so many more uses. Here are just a few of them:

- Baking- helps baked goods, like bread, to rise
- Relieve stomach indigestion and heartburn when mixed in water
- Removing odors in the refrigerator, vents, storage areas, and closets
- Removing odor in kitty litter
- It is used in fire extinguishers for grease and oil fires
- It is often used as a cleaning agent
- It can be used as a meat tenderizer
- Put it in water with beans to minimize flatulence from eating beans
- Polish Silverware
- Remove burned food from a pot or a pan
- And, the list goes on, and on, and.....

