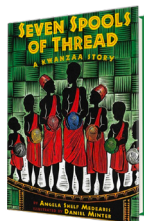


Recommendations for Books to Read Over the Holidays

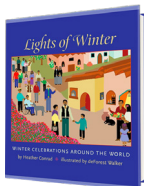
5-11
years old



SEVEN SPOOLS OF THREAD: A KWANZAA STORY

AUTHOR: Angela Shelf Medearis, Illustrator: Daniel Minter
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Albert Whitman & Company
INTERMEDIATE READERS

Using the Nguzo Saba, or “seven principles” of Kwanzaa, the author creates an unforgettable story about how family members can pull together for their own good and that of their entire community.



LIGHTS OF WINTER: WINTER CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

AUTHOR: Heather Conrad, Illustrator: deForest Walker
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Lightport Books
INTERMEDIATE READERS

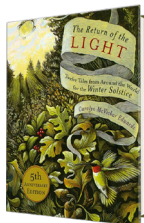
This picture book provides a simple yet respectful description of ten of the world's many past and present mid-winter celebrations while highlighting their commonalities.



THE SHORTEST DAY

AUTHOR: Susan Cooper, Illustrator: Carson Ellis
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Candlewick
INTERMEDIATE READERS

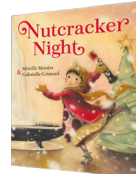
When the sun set on the shortest day of the year, early humans gathered with candles and music in preparation for the long night ahead. This picture book captures the magic behind the return of light and the nostalgia for traditions that link us to previous generations.



THE RETURN OF THE LIGHT: TWELVE TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD FOR THE WINTER SOLSTICE

AUTHOR: Carolyn McVickar Edwards
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Da Capo Press
INTERMEDIATE READERS

Winter solstice celebrations are an age-old symbol of transition and renewal and are observed by many peoples on every continent. Carolyn McVickar Edwards recounts 12 traditional tales—from North America, China, Scandinavia, India, Africa, South America, Europe, and Polynesia—that honour this magical moment of transition.



NUTCRACKER NIGHT

AUTHOR: Mireille Messier, Illustrator: Gabrielle Grimard
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Pajama Press
BEGINNER READERS

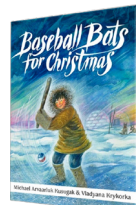
A little girl goes to the Nutcracker ballet and describes her experience through a series of images and sounds. The classic ballet comes to life in a performance filled with sensory delights for the eyes and, above all, ears.



SNOW DOVES

AUTHOR: Nancy Hartty
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Second Story Press
BEGINNER READERS - WORDLESS PICTURE BOOK

Filled with beautiful illustrations, this wordless picture book captures the joy of playing in the snow and shows readers how a new friend can make all the difference when adjusting to a new home.



BASEBALL BATS FOR CHRISTMAS

AUTHOR: Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak, Illustrator: Vadyana Krykorka
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Annick Press
ADVANCED READERS

It's 1955, and Arvaarluk and his friends are watching Rocky Parsons land his plane on the ice in the middle of the Arctic Circle. Having never seen trees before, the children try to guess what the six little green things Rocky delivers could be. One of the boys has an idea. Why not use them as baseball bats?



WHEN SANTA WAS A BABY

AUTHOR: Linda Bailey, Illustrator: Geneviève Godbout
PUBLISHING HOUSE: Tundra
ADVANCED READERS

Santa's parents think their child is absolutely wonderful, even if he has a booming voice instead of a baby's gurgle, likes to stand in front of the fridge, gives away his birthday presents, trains his hamsters to pull a matchbox sled, and has an unusual interest in chimneys! Enjoy an adorably funny portrait of an oddball kid who fulfills his destiny.

