



Christmas Crafts from Around the World

MEXICO

Christmas in Mexico is celebrated from December 12 to January 6. The Mexican celebration of Christmas is called las posadas and begins on December 16. For the first eight evenings of the las posadas, two costumed children carry statues of Mary and Joseph as they lead a procession of family members, neighbors, and friends from house to house. They sing a song asking for shelter for weary travelers. The children go into the house and say their prayers of thanks. Then, they have a party with food, games, and fireworks.

The poinsettia, also known as the Christmas star and Christmas flower, has become a symbol of Christmas. This winter flowers' association with Christmas comes from a Mexican legend. The story goes that a small child, wanting to bring a gift to the Christ Child on The Mexican people view the poinsettia as a symbol of the Holy Star of Bethlehem-the star that led the Three Wise Men to Jesus in Bethlehem. The tiny bright yellow flowers in the center are encompassed with bright red leaves that resemble stars.

Poinsettia Ornament

Materials:

Red yellow and green construction paper

Scissors

Glue

Hole punch

Pipe cleaner



Instructions: This craft is made just like a paper pinwheel. Use red construction paper to make it. Once the pinwheel is done, press it down so it's flat. Add a yellow circle in the center and green leaves. Punch a hole near the top and thread a pipe cleaner through. Make it into a loop so you can hang the ornament from the tree.