



Christmas Crafts from Around the World

SWEDEN

Christmas in Sweden begins on December 13 with Saint Lucia Day, a day to honor Lucia, the patron saint of light said to be a bearer of light during the long Swedish winters. According to

tradition, the eldest daughter portrays “the Queen of Light (St. Lucia)” by dressing up in a white robe or long white dress and a crown of leaves and candles. Singing “Santa Lucia,” she serves coffee and treats to each family member. The younger children often help her out.

Woven Christmas Craft

Materials:

- Red and green paper
- Heavy cardstock to make the template or a heart-shaped cookie cutter.
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- White paint
- Kitchen sponge cut into a strip with a small square shape at one end.

Instructions:

1. Make a half-heart template out of thin cardboard. (If you have a heart-shaped cookie cutter you can skip this step and simply trace your hearts using the cutter.)
2. Fold the red or green paper in half.
3. Line up the template with the folded side of the paper. Trace and cut out.
4. Make as many hearts as you want.
5. Using white paint, stamp squares on the hearts. Kids can decide if they want to mimic the look of a woven heart or just stamp freestyle. I have my kids decide what they want to do ahead of time.
6. Cut several strips of paper. These will be the handles.
7. If you want to turn them into baskets, glue two hearts together, applying glue only along the bottom-side edges. Glue on the handle.
8. Hang on a tree.

