

The end of the year is a wonderful time to reflect and celebrate! Around the world, we celebrate in many different ways and for many different reasons.

DIWALI

Diwali is one of the most important festivals in Hinduism, though it is often celebrated in other religions, as well. It is known for the row of clay lamps that are lit outside of homes, symbolizing the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. Diwali is celebrated over five days, with each day holding a different meaning.

For more information about Diwali, check out these books and sites at the library:

- *Diwali* by Rachel Koestler-Grack (J– 294.536 KOESTLER)
- *It's Diwali!* by Surishtha Sehgal & Kabir Sehgal (E SEHGAL)
- *Diwali In My New Home* by Shachi Kaushik (E KAUSHIK)
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/pages/article/diwali>
- <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Diwali/390119>

DIWALI



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LUNAR NEW YEAR

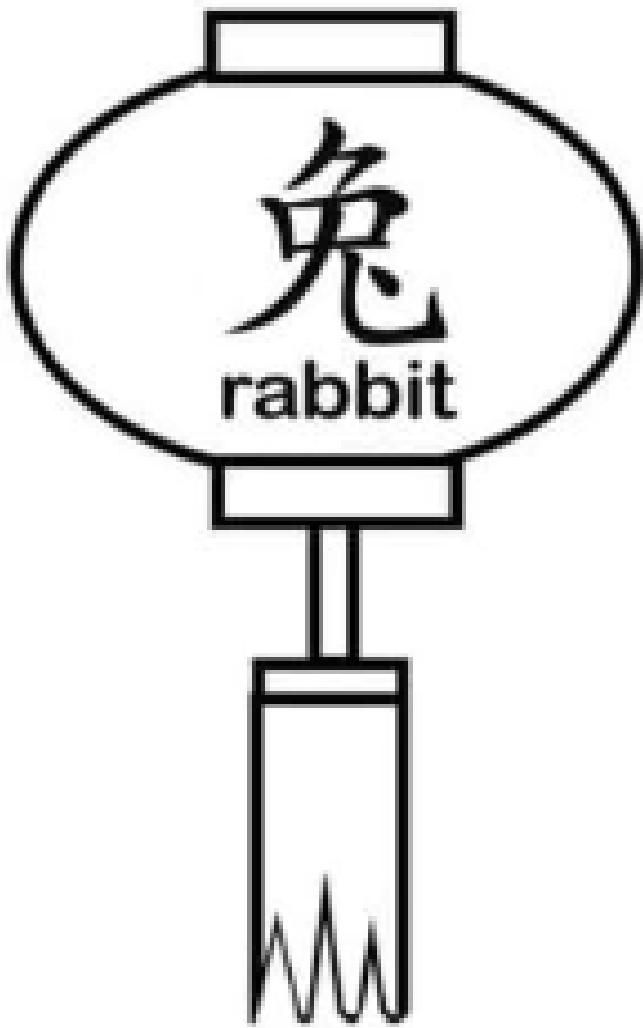
The Lunar New Year, also known as the Chinese New Year, is a 15-day celebration that starts in January or February, depending on the year. Each year is represented by one of twelve different animals. 2023 will be the Year of the Rabbit.

People celebrate the Lunar New Year in many different ways, such as dancing in beautiful costumes, spending time with family, or spring cleaning.

For more information about Lunar New Year, check out these books and sites at the library:

- *The Night Before Lunar New Year* by Natasha Wing (E WING)
- *Lunar New Year* by Susan E. Hamen (E 394.261 HAMEN)
- *Lunar New Year* by Hannah Eliot (E ELIOT)
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/celebrations/article/which-chinese-new-year-animal-are-you-like>
- <https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/Chinese-New-Year/574653>

LUNAR NEW YEAR



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HANUKKAH

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that occurs over eight days, and is also known as the Festival of Lights. It is inspired by a historic event in which, after a long religious war, one jar of sacred oil miraculously burned for eight days and nights.

To celebrate the eight nights of Hanukkah, people light candles on a branched candlestick called a *menorah*. They start with one candle called the *shamash*, then use it to light a new one each night.

For more information about Hanukkah, check out these books and sites at the library:

- *Hanukkah, Here I Come!* by D.J. Steinburg (E STEINBUR)
- *Hanukkah Around the World* by Tami Lehman-Wilzig (J- 296.43509 LEHMAN-W)
- *Hanukkah* by Rachel Grack-Koestler (J- 296.435 KOESTLER)
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/celebrations/article/hanukkah>
- <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Hanukkah/353230>

HANUKKAH



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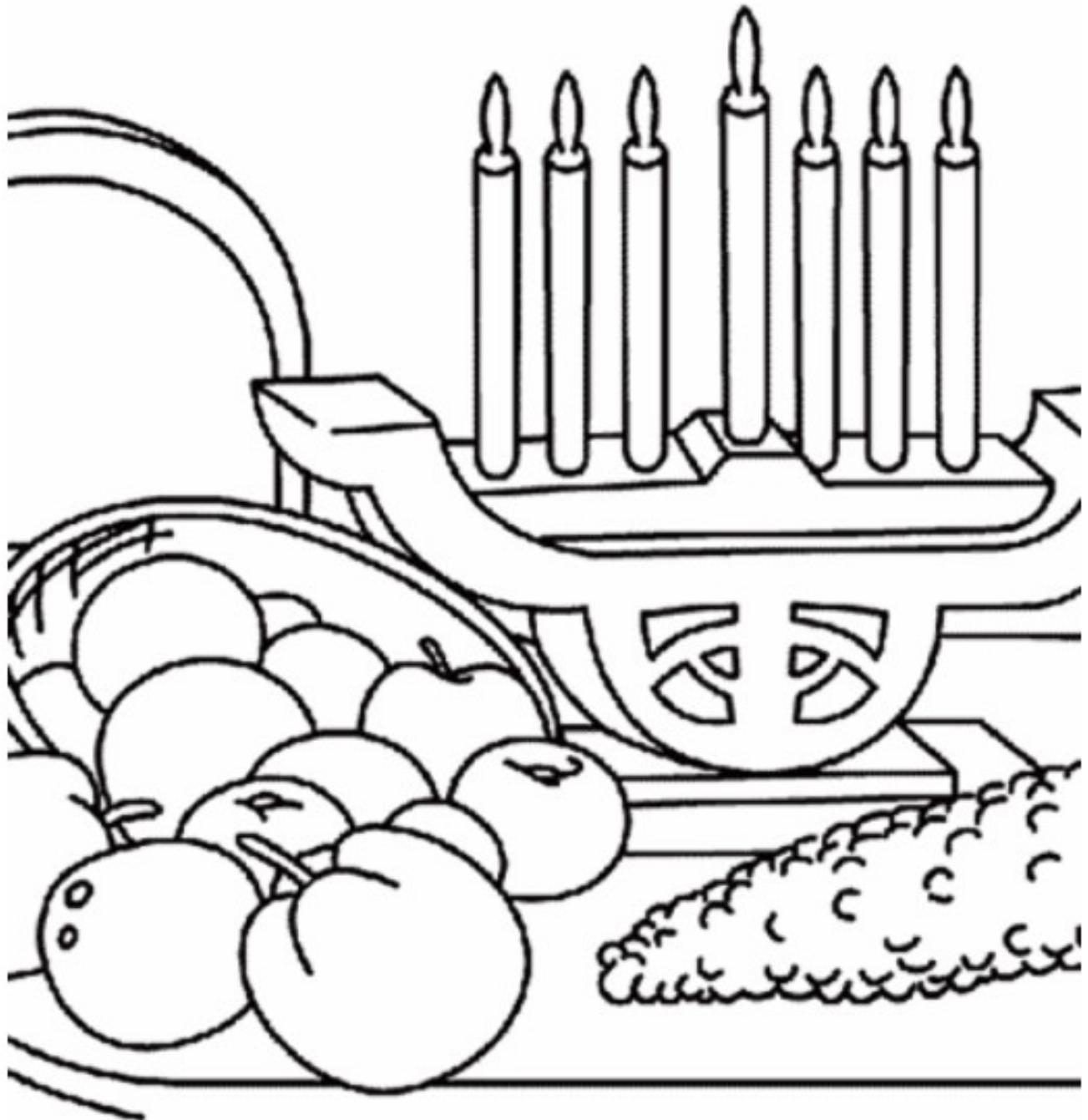
KWANZAA

Kwanzaa is a celebration of African heritage in the United States, and it is based on African harvest festivals. It takes place each year from December 26 to January 1. The symbols of the festival come from different African cultures, and include a candleholder, seven candles, ears of corn, gifts, and a unity cup. Each day (and candle) is dedicated to one of seven principles, such as unity and creativity.

For more information about Kwanzaa, check out these books and sites at the library:

- *Kwanzaa* by Rachel Koestler-Grack (J- 394.2612 KOESTLER)
- *Kwanzaa* by Artika R. Tyner (E- 394.2612 TYNER)
- *My Family Celebrates Kwanzaa* by Lisa Bullard (E- 394.2612 BULLARD)
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/celebrations/article/kwanzaa>
- <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Kwanzaa/353354>

KWANZAA



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CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a Christian holiday that is celebrated widely throughout the world. It can be celebrated in many different ways, but often features gift-giving, special decorations like wreaths, ornaments, and trees, and sharing food with friends and family. Music and caroling is usually a big part of the celebration, too.

Christmas is officially recognized on December 25, but many people include a few days before or after the holiday in their celebrations.

For more information about Christmas, check out these books and sites at the library:

- *A Very Mercy Christmas* by Kate DiCamillo (E DICAMILL)
- *Christmas* by Pearl Markovics (E- 394.2663 MARKOVIC)
- *Christmas* by Allan Morey (E- 394.261 MOREY)
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/celebrations/article/christmas>
- <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Christmas/352958>

CHRISTMAS

