



# *The Roar*

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(Special Christmas Edition)

# Swedish Christmas Traditions

By Alice Ling

Swedish and American Christmas traditions are mostly similar, but we have some traditions that are different from America. The Christmas celebration starts first with Advent. We have four candles in a box and light one every week. That is our countdown until Christmas.

The Nobel Prize award ceremony is December 10th in Stockholm. The Nobel Prizes are given out as a memory of Alfred Nobel who was the man that invented dynamite. The prize is given out to people who did something good for the world. The prizes are given out in the categories of chemistry, physics, medicine, literature, peace, and economic science.

Alfred Nobel did not have any children and decided to give all his money to the fund that provides the prize ceremony. He saw how much damage dynamite had done and he wanted to do something good for the world.

On December 13th we have a tradition called Lucia day and we do something called “Luciatåg”. People dress up in white clothing that looks like dresses and then they go around singing Christmas songs. Usually the boys have cone formed hats on their heads and the girls have glitter in their hair. One person dresses up like Lucia. That person has a crown of candles on their head and a red band tied around their waist. Lucia was a saint from England and she got chopped in half.

During her life, it was illegal to be a Christian in the Roman Empire. She was eventually killed by being cut in half with a sword. The red band around the waist symbolizes blood. Sometimes people dress up like Santas and walk in the “Luciatåg”. On Lucia day people eat a yellow bun with saffron and raisin.





# Christmas Survey



By Alyvia Zeigler

After surveying the Natoma staff and students over some of the aspects of the Christmas season, these were the results:

- ★ **91.1%** put up a Christmas tree
- ★ **42.2%** go caroling
- ★ The favorite Christmas movie was **Christmas Vacation** followed by **How the Grinch Stole Christmas, Elf, A Christmas Story,** and **The Santa Clause.**
- ★ **71.1%** bake Christmas cookies
- ★ **24.4%** build gingerbread houses
- ★ **88.8%** hang up stockings
- ★ When asked to rank their “jollyness” **11.1%** answered “Santa himself”, **42.2%** said “Buddy the Elf”, **26.7%** said “Cindy Lou Who”, **11.1%** said “Scrouge”, and **6.7%** said “Grinch”.

# Best Christmas Gifts For 2017

By: Alexandria Eledge

## Kids

- **Fingerlings Interactive Baby Monkey**

Cute little monkeys attach onto your finger, respond to sound, motion and touch by blinking their eyes, moving their head, and talking in cute monkey voices.



- **New Hatchimals COLLEGGtibles**

These 'eggs' are responsive and they'll hatch not one, but two surprise animals!

## Men

- **The New Amazon Echo Plus**

Hands-free, ask Alexa anything! She'll answer your questions about weather, horoscopes, stocks, and traffic, plus you can listen to music.

- **Spicebomb**

Very masculine and refreshing year round scent.



## Women

- **Diptyque Roses Scented Candle**

Freshly picked blooms scent that'll keep you thinking about spring year 'round.



- **Barefoot Dreams Cozy Bathrobe**

The Comfiest Shower Robe around!

Information found on: brostrick



# The History of Christmas

(By: Shandra Griffin)



Why is December 25 the day we celebrate Christmas? The first known Christmas recorded was on December 25, 363 A.D. Many Scholars believe Jesus was not born on that day. Early beliefs was it falls around the Winter Solstice or in September.

Some may know the Christmas Story of how the Holy Spirit came upon Mary and told her she was going to have a son named Jesus. She and her husband, Joseph, were in Bethlehem when it was time to give birth to Jesus. She wrapped him in cloths and laid him in the manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

To many, Christmas means a time to gather with family and share gifts with one another. For children, Christmas seems like the most magical time of the year.

On Christmas Eve, Santa Claus makes an appearance! He and his reindeer bring all the good boys and girls their most wanted toy! If you have been bad, you will receive a lump of coal. On Christmas day, all the kids can't wait to find out what Santa left them.

Countries celebrate Christmas in unique ways. While America receives presents from Santa, children in Spain receive gifts from the three wisemen. In Germany, they have the legend of Krampus (a demonic being) who whips, kidnaps, and scares children who have misbehaved. The Santa in France wears a red and white cloak instead of a suit.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night! HO! HO! HO!

Info found at:

<https://www.whychristmas.com/customs/25th.shtml>

<http://www.thisisinsider.com/santa-claus-a-round-the-world-2017-12>



*Merry Christmas*  
*From the Current Events Class*