* ***The idea for using electric Christmas lights came from an American Ralph E. Morris in 1895.  The new lights were safer than the traditional candles.***
* ***The use of a Christmas wreath on your front door symbolizes a sign of welcome and long life to all who enter.***
* ***The first printed reference to Christmas trees appeared in Germany in 1531.***
* ***Oregon is the leading producer of Christmas trees - 8.6 million in 1998.***
* ***During the Christmas season, more than 1.760.000.000 candy***

***canes are made.***

* ***In Ukraine Christmas is celebrated on the 7th of December.***
* ***In 1856, President Franklin Pierce decorates the first White House Christmas tree.***
* ***Due to the time zones, Santa has 31 hours to deliver gifts? This means that he would have to visit 832 homes each second!***
* ***A traditional Christmas dinner in early England was the head of a pig prepared with mustard.***
* ***According to a 1995 survey, 7 out of 10 British dogs get Christmas presents from their owners.***
* ***The first Christmas card was created in England on December 9, 1842.***
* ***More than 3.000.000.000 Christmas cards are sent in the United States every year.***
* ***He is known throughout the world, by various names; Santa Claus, Father Christmas, Kris Kringle, Saint Nicholas, Sinterklaas, St. Nick,***

***and Pere Noel.***

* ***The original Santa Claus, St. Nicholas, was born in Turkey in the 4th century.***
* ***Santa's reindeer are named Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen.  Oh - and of course, Rudolph.***
* ***The Christmas season begins at sundown on 24th December and lasts through sundown on 5th January. This season is also known as the Twelve Days of Christmas.***
* ***English-speaking children put stockings out at Christmas time. While Dutch and German children use shoes.***
* ***The Santa Claus' costume was developed in the 1930s by Coca-Cola Company.***
* ***The world record for the most people kissed is held by Alfred Wolfram of Minnesota who kissed 11,030 people in 8 hours, at a festival in 1998.***
* ***Wedding rings are worn on the fourth finger of your left hand because people used to believe that the vein in this finger goes directly to your heart.***
* ***Eggs are a symbol***

***of the new life***

***that returns to nature***

***at Easter Time.***

* ***Early Christians used red colored eggs to symbolize the Resurrection.***
* ***Halloween takes place on October 31st, the day before All Saints Day.***
* ***The first Jack-o-lanterns were carved from turnips, not pumpkins. When the Irish came to America they began to use pumpkins.***
* ***The Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock on December 11, 1620.***
* ***The Thanksgiving Feast that the Pilgrims had with the Natives in 1621 lasted three days.***
* ***In 1941, Thanksgiving was declared by Congress to be a legal holiday, held on the fourth Thursday in November.***
* ***George Washington is the only man whose Birthday is a legal holiday in every state of the United States.***
* ***The name "Halloween" means 'All Hallows Eve', or the night before the 'All Hallows' , or 'All Saints', observed on November 1.***
* ***The world's fastest time to carve a face into a pumpkin is 54.72 seconds, by Stephen Clarke (USA), on October 23, 2001***