

# Awaking Wonder

## Christmas Around the World Part 2



### SPAIN:

In Spain, Three Kings Day is celebrated on Epiphany, January 6. Children put their shoes outside with straw for the Magi's camels and later find sweet treats left in their place. Celebrate the journey of the wise men by taking the wise men from your nativity set on a journey around your home through the Christmas season. On January 6, the Magi finally arrive.

### UNITED STATES:

From Colonial times, items from nature were used to decorate in the Americas. Pop some popcorn and string popcorn and cranberries on cotton thread. These can be used to decorate a Christmas tree or you can place them on a bush or tree outside for backyard wildlife to enjoy. For another old fashioned treat, make a batch of caramel corn to enjoy with a Christmas movie.



### SOUTH AFRICA:

In South Africa, Christmas falls in summertime. On Christmas Day, a traditional South African family celebrates with a braai—an outdoor grilled meal. A meat like beef tenderloin or ox tail is the main course. Talk with your children about how your holiday would be differently celebrated in another season of the year.

### RUSSIA:



Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* was first performed as a ballet in St. Petersburg, Russia on December 18, 1892. Since that time, it has become a Christmas tradition around the world. Listen to the music at home and attend a local performance. Use these times as a reminder to pray for peace on earth.