Christmas Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:
Christmas questions worksheet (pages 2-3),
18 Christmas fact cards (pages 4-8),
scissors and scotch tape

Preparation
Print the fact cards and cut them apart.
Make copies of the Christmas questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.
Hide all 18 Christmas fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them.
You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs,

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.
You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.
Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:
- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- laying flat on the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair
- on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.
Reindeer are also known as Caribou.

If you were to total all the gifts given in the song "The 12 Days of Christmas" it would equal 364 gifts.

Electric Christmas lights were first used on Christmas trees in the late 1800s.

The Germans made the first artificial Christmas tree out of dyed goose feathers.

If you were to total all the gifts given in the song "The 12 Days of Christmas" it would equal 364 gifts.
For many people in Japan eating Kentucky Fried Chicken is a Christmas tradition. It is so popular that orders are placed months in advance.

The song "Jingle Bells" was originally written for Thanksgiving. It was originally titled "One Horse Open Sleigh."


Poinsettias, the traditional Christmas flowers, are originally native to Mexico.
Fact Card 9

The first candy canes were straight white sticks.

Fact Card 10

Just like a human fingerprint no two reindeer antlers are exactly the same.

Fact Card 11

When Santa visits Finland he does not ride in a sleigh pulled by reindeer. Instead, he rides on a straw goat named Ukko.

Fact Card 12

The first Christmas trees were decorated with foods such as apples, nuts, and dates.
Santa Claus has many different names including Kris Kringle, Saint Nicholas, and Father Christmas.

Many years ago, people told ghost stories on Christmas Eve. "A Christmas Carol" is an example of a Christmas ghost story.

Jack Rollins and Steve Nelson were songwriters. They wrote "Frosty the Snowman." They also wrote the "Easter hit "Peter Cottontail."

The world’s largest gingerbread man was baked in Oslo, Norway in 2009. It weighed 1,435 pounds (650.9 kilograms).
Christmas Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: What are reindeer also known as?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 2: When were the first electric Christmas lights used?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 3: What were the first artificial Christmas trees made out of?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 4: What is the total amount of gifts given in “The 12 Days of Christmas”?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 5: What holiday was “Jingle Bells” originally written for?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 6: In Japan, what food is traditionally eaten on Christmas?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 7: Instead of stockings, what do Dutch children put out at Christmas?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 8: Poinsettias are native to what country?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 9: When Santa visits Finland what does he ride?

__________________________________________________________________

Name: ____________________________
Fact Card 10: How are reindeer antlers similar to a human fingerprint?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 11: What color and shape were the first candy canes?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 12: What were the first Christmas trees decorated with?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 15: Many years ago, what type of stories were told on Christmas Eve?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 16: Santa Claus has many different names. List 3 of them.

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 17: How heavy was the world's largest gingerbread man?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 18: How do you say "Merry Christmas" in French?

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   caribou

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   the late 1800s

Fact Card 3: What were the first artificial Christmas trees made out of?
   dyed goose feathers

Fact Card 6: In Japan, what food is traditionally eaten on Christmas?
   Kentucky Fried Chicken

Fact Card 7: Instead of stockings, what do Dutch children put out at Christmas?
   shoes

Fact Card 8: Poinsettias are native to what country?
   Mexico

Fact Card 9: When Santa visits Finland what does he ride?
   a straw goat named Ukko
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