

FAITH SPARKERS™



"But when the time was right, God sent his Son, and a woman gave birth to him. His Son obeyed the Law, so he could set us free from the Law, and we could become God's children." —Galatians 4:4-5 (CEV)

Candy Cane Christmas Cookies

parents & grandparents make this a yearly tradition



This two-in-one activity is a great one to do with your family as you celebrate this Christmas season. You can enjoy reading the legend about the candy cane. Then make and eat cookies that look like candy canes.

Materials Needed

- The Candy Cane Story (found on flip side)
- Ingredients for the Candy Cane Cookies
- Mixing bowls
- Measuring cups and spoons

#1 Read The Candy Cane Story to your family.

#2 With the help of your family members make the recipe for the Candy Cane Cookies.

#1 Candy Cane Cookie Ingredients

- 1 cup butter flavored shortening
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon red food color
- Sugar



- Gather all the ingredients.
- Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- Thoroughly mix together the shortening, powdered sugar, egg, and vanilla and almond extracts.
- Blend in the flour and salt.
- Place half the dough into another bowl and add the red food coloring a little at a time.
- Stop when desired color of red is reached.
- Shape each bowl of dough into a long, uniform rope by rolling them back and forth on a lightly-floured surface.
- Place the ropes beside each other and press them gently together on one end.
- Twist the two ropes of dough together to form a candy-cane effect.
- Cut 4-inch sections from the dough.
- Place the 4-inch pieces of dough on an ungreased baking sheet. Bend the top of each cookie piece down to form the curved top of a cane.
- Bake the cookies for 8 minutes or until very lightly browned.
- Dust the cookies with sugar while they are hot.
- Remove from cookie sheet to cool.

"A child has been born for us. We have been given a son who will be our ruler. His names will be Wonderful Advisor and Mighty God, Eternal Father and Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 (CEV)



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The Curtis family was walking out of church one Christmas Eve when Pastor Simms handed the two children, Kate, age 5, and Amy, age 9, candy canes.

"Merry Christmas," he said, as they took the candy from him.

"Thank you. Merry Christmas!" they said to Pastor Simms.

As they walked to their car, Katie asked, "Daddy, why does the pastor always give us candy canes? Why doesn't he give us chocolate kisses or lollipops or some other kind of candy?"

"Well," he said, "it could be because this candy represents Jesus."

"What do you mean?" asked Amy.

"I'll show you. Hold your candy cane upside down. It forms a 'J' that stands for Jesus. If you turn it the other way it looks like a shepherd's crook. Jesus is called the 'Good Shepherd'."

"Oh, I see," said Kate.

"Now look at the candy cane again," Daddy continued. "The red and white stripes also tell a story. The red represents the blood that Jesus shed for us and the white represents our lives that can become pure because of him."

"Wow!" Amy said, "I get it."

"Yes," said Daddy, "the candy cane tells an important story."

"You know what, Daddy," said Kate.

"What, Kate?"

"The candy cane is my favorite candy!"



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