

## Holiday Ornament Activity Guide

**Time Commitment:**  
30-45 minutes

**Grade Level:**  
K-5th

**3Ts Used:**  
Time  
Talent  
Treasure



### OVERVIEW

The holidays are a time for warmth, family, and of course, giving! Amid the twinkling lights and sugar plum dreams, there's also a wonderful opportunity to cultivate a spirit of philanthropy in your students. What better time than the holidays to teach your students the importance of having a spirit of generosity! This activity invites students to use their time and talents to craft fun ornaments to be donated to someone in their community—turning simple materials into treasures that spread joy and kindness.

### CONNECTION TO BOOKS

- *The Gift of Words* by Peter H Reynolds
- *The Giving Snowman* by Julia Zheng
- *Unstoppable!* by Susanna Aughtmon - Contact Kelsey Ransom at [kelsey.ransom@ottercares.org](mailto:kelsey.ransom@ottercares.org) for your free copy, or access a digital version at <https://bit.ly/4pOc2vy>.

### POSSIBLE MATERIALS

- Wooden popsicle sticks
- Chenille pipe cleaners
- Paint or markers
- Gems and sequins
- Pom pom balls
- Cardboard
- Glue
- Glitter

## Planting the Seed: An Acorn of Kindness

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### INSTRUCTIONS

- Assign an ornament design or allow students to choose what they would like to create
- Tell students to glue their popsicle sticks into their desired shape - snowman, tree, star, etc. (images below)
- Use markers and paint to add fun color to your ornaments
- Decorate with additional items like pipe cleaners, glitter, gems, etc.
- Add a looped string to the top so that the ornament can be hung



[https://www.target.com/p/4e-s-novelly-snowman-ornament-craft-kit-12-pack-christmas-crafts-for-kids-2-8-diy-winter-arts-and-crafts-activity/-/A-93011724?ref=ftg1\\_soc\\_cdp&afid=pin&epik=d0yjn1PaW1St2NzN0Jw5DcSRHR0QjRBbzrmbm8yOBIM2jEadmimcD0wim49a1Jtk93TcvcDg50vV3V1N3ZFayZ0PufBQUFR2s3TG0w](https://www.target.com/p/4e-s-novelly-snowman-ornament-craft-kit-12-pack-christmas-crafts-for-kids-2-8-diy-winter-arts-and-crafts-activity/-/A-93011724?ref=ftg1_soc_cdp&afid=pin&epik=d0yjn1PaW1St2NzN0Jw5DcSRHR0QjRBbzrmbm8yOBIM2jEadmimcD0wim49a1Jtk93TcvcDg50vV3V1N3ZFayZ0PufBQUFR2s3TG0w)



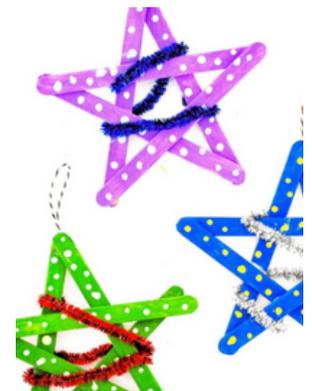
[thebestideasforkids.com](https://thebestideasforkids.com)



<https://www.firefliesandmudpies.com/craft-stick-reindeer-ornaments/>



<https://thrivinghomeblog.com/31-easy-christmas-crafts-for-kids/>



<https://kidsactivityzone.com/star-popsicle-stick-ornaments/>

### WHERE TO DONATE

- Senior living communities
- Veterans centers
- Homeless shelters
- Hospitals