

# Joy Goes Around the World for Christmas

Joy Saxton

Grades: PK-2

## ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

*Joy goes on a Christmas adventure around the world in her Puppet Theater. Author/Illustrator, Joy Saxton, brings the spirit of the holidays alive with puppets, stories and audience participation. Students will learn about the importance of diversity and compassion for all, while having a lot of holiday cheer!*

## TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills):

	Theater	Language Arts	Social Studies	<b>The Students Will:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate appropriate etiquette during live performances.</li><li>• Practice listening and speaking.</li><li>• Practice ways to deal with negative emotions.</li><li>• Practice reading comprehension skills.</li><li>• Write/tell stories to express ideas and feelings about real or imagined people, events, and ideas.</li></ul>
<b>K</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	1, 6, 8, 11	11, 13, 14	
<b>1</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	1, 6, 7, 8, 12	14, 16, 17	
<b>2</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	1, 6, 7, 8, 12	12, 14, 15	

## Academic Vocabulary:

Diversity	Including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds and of different genders, etc.
Compassion	Sympathy and concern for the troubles of others.
Kind	Being generous and helpful toward others.
Friendly	Being kind toward others.
Different	Not the same in some way.
Puppet	A model of a person or animal that can be moved (to look more realistic) with the hand, strings, or other means.

## CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:

### ***Before the performance***

- What are some of your favorite stories?

### ***After the performance:***

- What did you like best about the presentation?
- Write, draw, tell, sing, dance, or act out your favorite part.

### **Language Arts:**

- Create a skit, story, drawing, rap, dance, or other form related to one of the following words:

Kind  
Friendly  
Helpful  
Giving  
Nice  
Caring  
Grateful

- Read other stories celebrating diversity, such as *Fish Is Fish* by Leo Lionni or *The Mixed-Up Chameleon* by Eric Carle. Retell the story with masks, puppets, or singing and dancing.
- Sing songs and dance about diversity, such as “De colores” or “Everyday People.” Draw pictures of your favorite parts.

#### De colores

De colores que visten los campos en la primavera.  
De colores.  
De colores son los pajarillos que vienen de afuera.  
De colores.  
De colores es el arco iris que vemos lucir.

Y por eso las grandes amores  
De muchos colores  
Me gustan a mi.

Y por eso las grandes amores  
De muchos colores  
Me gustan a mi.

#### Everyday People By Sly and the Family Stone

Sometimes I'm right and I can be wrong.  
My own beliefs are in my song.  
The butchers, the banker, the drummer and then—  
Makes no difference what group I'm in.

I am everyday people, yeah, yeah

There is a blue one who can't accept the green one  
For living with a fat one, trying to be a skinny one.  
Different strokes for different folks  
And so on and so on and scooby-dooby-dooby

Oh, sha-sha.  
We got to live together  
Oh, sha-sha!

**Math:**

- Try math games from around the world.  
<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=counting+games+from+around+the+world&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>
- Play online math games. <https://pbskids.org/games/math>

**Tug of War:**

Make the game board from adding machine tape or a long piece of paper or card stock. Place a treat (such as a cookie) or game piece on START. Two people play, one at each end that says, WIN! Take turns throwing a die. On your turn count the pips on the die and move the treat that many spaces closer to you. The one who passes WIN! on their end is the winner.

**Social Studies:**

- Read other Joy Saxton books about other cultures, such as *Joy Goes to Paris* or *Joy Goes to Mexico*.
- Write about what you like about your own culture, neighborhood, or country of origin.
- Try out Christmas traditions from around the world.
- Make pictures of multicultural people with multicultural markers or paper.
- Make sculptures of multicultural people with multicultural modeling clay.

**Science:**

- Mix colors to make different skin tones: white, brown, yellow, black, red, etc. Use to draw a variety of families with different colors.

**Resources:****Joy Paxton:**

<https://www.joysaxton.com>

**Christmas traditions:**

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=christmas+traditions+around+the+world+for+early+childhood&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=easy+christmas+crafts+for+little+kids&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

Joy Saxton has worked passionately with children for over 25 years teaching and developing programs that have made a difference in the lives of young children. Joy began her career at the age of eight years old anchoring a two-time national award-winning kids' television show called Kids TV Express for over ten years based in Austin, Texas. In high school, Joy started a performing arts troop called A Little Laughter Productions and recruited forty young people to produce and perform in a play that toured nursing homes, children's homes, homes for the mentally handicapped, and hospitals. At age seventeen, she was the youngest student ever accepted into the O'Neill National Theater Institute, which worked with world-renowned theatrical directors, and studied Shakespeare in London. She started a program called J.O.Y. International, a non-profit organization, and developed and implemented an educational curriculum for elementary schools in Austin. In Houston, Joy trained thousands of children through her programs, and her students have landed starring roles in major motion pictures, network television series and landed lead roles on Broadway, including a Tony Best Actress nomination. She has written and illustrated children's books about places around the world and is touring schools teaching a message of children loving one another. The book was chosen by the Barbara Bush Foundation for their My Home Library, that gives books to economically disadvantaged school children throughout Houston. Joy has raised over a million dollars for charities working with an orphanage in India and Africa, Dell Children's Hospital, and United Way.