

Disney's
Lilo & Stitch
The Series

Lilo & Stitch: "Topper"

A Disney Channel Episode for Cable in the Classroom
Ages 4-7

Program Synopsis:

In "Topper," a holiday-themed episode of *Lilo and Stitch*, the mischievous alien Stitch (sometimes known as botched experiment 626) learns what Christmas gift-giving is all about.

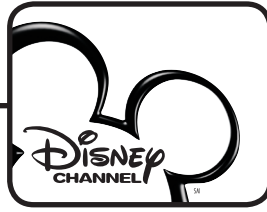
Because Stitch doesn't know anything about the way Earthlings celebrate Christmas, his Hawaiian friend Lilo begins teaching him about her family's holiday customs. She explains that, as the youngest in the family, it's her job to find the presents that her sister has hidden. "It's a Hawaiian Christmas tradition," Lilo tells Stitch. They soon run into Stitch's creator, Gantu, and his sidekick, Pleakley, who are researching Earth's winter holidays. Pleakley claims that he knows everything about "Kwanzaa, Hanukah, Christmas, and the year-end clearance sale" at the department store. Lilo frowns at the last one, but after her sister goes to work on Christmas Eve, she decides to take Stitch to the "best place to learn about Christmas—the mall."

Meanwhile, Gantu, who is on an endless mission to capture all of Jumba's experiments for the evil Dr. Hamsterviel, is planning to give the doctor a Christmas present: a dormant experiment pod that he has found. Gantu takes the pod to the mall to have it boxed and wrapped. When Lilo and Stitch pass the gift-wrap kiosk at the mall, Stitch gets the "Christmas Craziest" and starts grabbing all of the presents and opening them. Lilo has no idea why he is being so naughty. Santa arrives, and Lilo asks him to "go easy on Stitch. He doesn't know what he's doing."

Stitch continues on his rampage, stealing presents and bringing them to Lilo's attic. He is ruining everyone's Christmas! Jumba puts Stitch into a container to stop his misbehavior, but Lilo wants to "find out why he's acting the way he is." They put Stitch into a brain analyzer so they can take a look at his destructive thoughts. One of Stitch's visions shows someone placing an experiment pod into a box and wrapping it. Jumba and Lilo realize that Stitch has been looking for the pod in all of the presents.

Gantu goes back to mall to retrieve his package, but he discovers that Stitch has taken it. He storms out of the mall to find Stitch and the pod. When Lilo and Stitch go back to the attic to retrieve the pod, they find that the presents are all gone. Gantu has taken them!

Everyone ends up at the mall, trying to get their hands on the pod. When Lilo realizes that Gantu was planning to give it as a gift to Hamsterviel, she forgives him, saying that Christmas is "not about getting presents, it's about giving presents." Jumba recognizes that it is pod 025—which he says will make a good present. They put the pod into the fountain, and it morphs into a star-shaped creature, perfect for the top of the tree!



Objectives:

The student will:

- Develop an awareness of and appreciation for various winter holidays.
- Share information about his/her family's traditions.
- Learn to say holiday greetings for various holidays in English and in other languages.
- Learn or reinforce knowledge of basic shapes.
- Use adjectives to describe objects.
- Appreciate the act of giving to others.

Preview Questions:

- What holidays do you celebrate in winter? Does everyone celebrate that holiday?
- What other winter holidays do people celebrate?
- Have you received a present lately? How did you feel when you opened it?
- Have you given anyone a present lately? How did it feel when the person opened your gift?
- What's the best thing about receiving a present? What's the best thing about giving someone a present?

Post-Viewing Questions:

- What holidays will your family be celebrating this winter? What special things do you do for this holiday?
- What presents would you like to give to members of your family?
- What did Lilo mean when she said, "It's not about getting presents, it's about giving presents"? Can you think of other stories where someone gives presents?

ACTIVITIES

SOCIAL STUDIES

Activity #1: Holiday Celebrations

Pleakley is trying to learn all about celebrating Christmas here on Earth. He mentions that he has also learned about Kwanzaa and Hanukah. Use Stitch's curiosity about Christmas to spark an exploration of other winter holidays. In a class discussion, find out which winter holidays students celebrate. Ask students to describe special aspects of their holiday celebrations. On a large sheet of chart paper, list specific information about each of the holidays students are already familiar with. Include these categories on your chart, and check off the ones that apply to each holiday the students describe:

- Eat foods that are prepared only during the holiday.
- Give gifts to family members.
- Give gifts to others.
- Travel to visit family.
- Sing holiday songs.
- Tell traditional stories about the holiday.
- Play a special game.
- Use holiday tableware.
- Put out decorations inside/outside of the house.
- Wear hats or other special clothing.
- Use candles or lights.

To help students add to their knowledge of familiar holidays and learn about holidays that are new to them, read aloud books like the ones listed here. Discuss the holidays in each story.

Various holidays around the world:

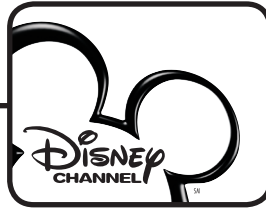
Children Just Like Me: Celebrations!, by Anabel Kindersley and Barnabas Kindersley. DK Publishing, 1997.

Kwanzaa:

Seven Candles for Kwanzaa, by Andrea Davis Pinkney. Puffin Books, 1993.

Diwali:

Lighting a Lamp: A Diwali Story (Festival Time Series) by Jonny Zucker. Barron's Educational Series, 2004.



Ramadan and Eid-ul-Fitr:

Fasting and Dates: A Ramadan and Eid-ul-Fitr Story (Festival Time Series) by Jonny Zucker. Barron's Educational Series, 2004.

After reading to students, add "new" holidays to your chart. Check off the appropriate columns with each holiday's customs. For more information on winter holidays, visit these websties:

Winter Holiday Round-Up

<http://www.factmonster.com/spot/winterholidays1.html>

Winter Holidays Around the World

<http://maf.dept.uncg.edu/programs/opportunities/winterholidays.html>

Activity #2: Holiday Greetings from Around the World

In "Topper," Lilo teaches Stitch to say Merry Christmas in Hawaiian. Build on what students learned in Activity #1 by teaching your class traditional holiday greetings from around the world.

Practice saying each greeting with the class. You may want to write the holiday salutations on the board.

Eid al-Fitr:

Muslim holiday that marks the end of the month-long observance of Ramadan.

Eid Saeed!
("Happy Eid!")

Kul 'am wa enta bi-khair!
("May every year find you in good health!")

Kwanzaa:

A non-religious African-American holiday honoring ancient African cultures and values.

Habari gani?
("What is the news?" This question is asked each night of Kwanzaa. Celebrants respond by explaining a different Kwanzaa principle each night.)

Hanukah:

A Jewish holiday called the "Festival of Lights."

Nes Gadol Hayah Sham
("A great miracle happened there")



Christmas:

A Christian holiday celebrated around the world.

"Merry Christmas"

Korean: *Sung Tan Chuk Ha* ("Merry Christmas and Happy New Year")

Japanese: *Shinnen omedeto*.

French: *Joyeux Noël*

Hawaiian: *Mele Kalikimaka*

Spanish: *Feliz Navidad y Prospero Ano Nuevo*
("Merry Christmas and Happy New Year")

Refer to this [website](#) for more information on saying "Merry Christmas" in other languages:

Fact Monster

<http://www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0877712.html>

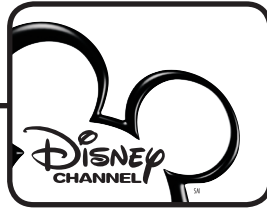
New Year's

"Happy New Year"

French: *Bonne Année!*

Japanese: *Kurisumasu Omedeto*

Hawaiian: *Hauoli Makahiki Hou*



Activity #3: Guess the Holiday

Once students have learned about different holidays and can greet one another in different languages (see Activities 1 & 2), play a multicultural holiday game. Slowly read each holiday's description aloud. As soon as students guess which holiday you are describing, have them say the appropriate greeting.

Clue: This is a favorite holiday in India. It begins with firecrackers and lasts for five days. Homes are decorated and thousands of lamps are lit to create a fantasy world. Sweets are given out to everyone.

Holiday: Diwali

Clue: This Muslim holiday begins when the new moon is spotted at the end of the month-long observance of Ramadan. Houses are decorated and new clothes are bought. Money is given to the poor so that they can celebrate too. Everyone goes to visit neighbors and friends and special cakes are eaten. Children receive small gifts of money.

Holiday: Eid Al Fitr, the Muslim "Festival of Breaking the Fast"

Clue: Families eat potato pancakes called latkes with sour cream and applesauce. This holiday lasts for eight nights and each night candles are lit. Children play the dreidel game.

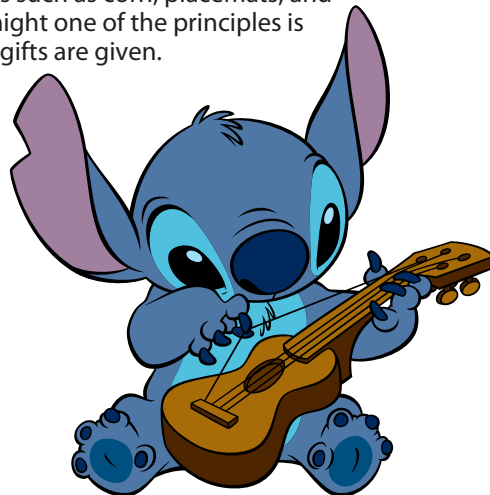
Holiday: Hanukah

Clue: Many people bring a live evergreen tree into the house and decorate it with shiny ornaments and lights. Families and friends exchange presents and eat special foods.

Holiday: Christmas

Clue: This holiday lasts for seven nights. Homes are decorated with symbols such as corn, placemats, and colored candles. Each night one of the principles is discussed. Homemade gifts are given.

Holiday: Kwanzaa



LANGUAGE ARTS

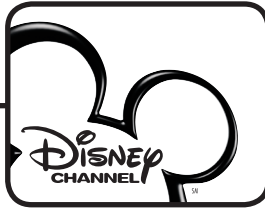
Activity #1: What's Inside the Mystery Box?

Everyone loves a mystery! In "Topper," Lilo explains to Stitch that before Christmas, you can't open the presents, but you can shake the box and try to guess what is inside. Build language arts skills with this fun mystery-box activity.

Assign several students each day to bring in a box (shoe box size or smaller) with a common, everyday object inside. For each mystery box, the student should write down (or parents can write for younger students) ten adjectives or describing words about the object.

In class, pass around one box at a time. Allow each student to shake the mystery box gently. If students think they know what it is, they must keep it a secret until everyone is finished. While the box is being passed around, the owner will say the adjectives to the class as hints. After everyone has shaken the box, students may raise their hands to volunteer guesses. Have the owner of the mystery box call on students. When someone guesses correctly, the owner lets everyone know by saying, "Thumbs up if you thought it could be a (name of object)!"





Activity #2: It's about Giving

At the end of "Topper," Lilo tells all her friends that Christmas is "not about getting presents, it's about giving presents." Explore this aspect of holiday gift-giving with a language arts activity that encourages children to think about the value of their own generosity.

Read and Discuss

Read *The Giving Tree*, by Shel Silverstein, aloud to your class. In Silverstein's story, an apple tree is happy when a boy eats its apples, swings on its branches, and climbs its trunk—when it is giving precious gifts to the boy. Ask students if the boy—the recipient of the tree's generosity—seems happy or grateful.

Then lead a class discussion about gift-giving using these questions as a guide:

- How did the tree feel when it was giving "gifts" to the boy?
- How did the tree feel when the boy was gone?
- How did the boy feel when he took what the tree offered?
- Did the boy give anything to the tree?
- What other stories do you know where someone gave a gift to someone else?
- Was it hard or easy for them to give this gift?
- How did they feel before they gave the gift?
- How did they feel after they gave the gift?

Write and Respond

Print **Disney's Lilo & Stitch: The Series** "It's about Giving" Worksheet on p. 8. Read it aloud to students:

"If I could, I would give [person] a [name of gift] because [reason]."

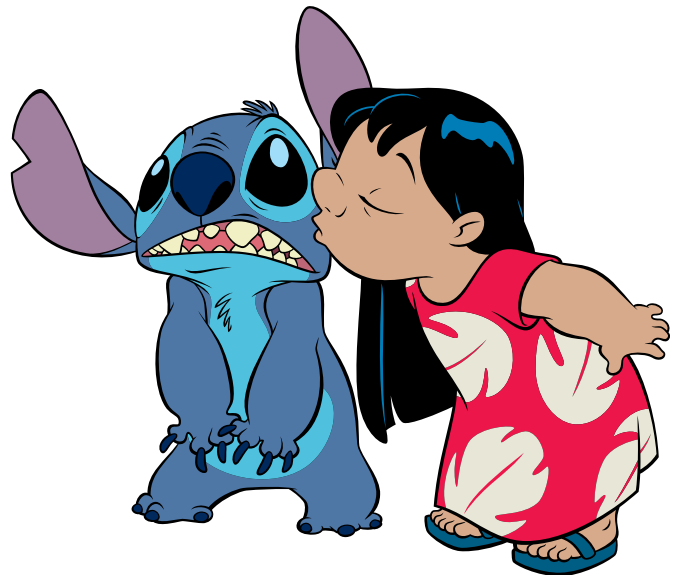
I would feel [describe] if I did this.

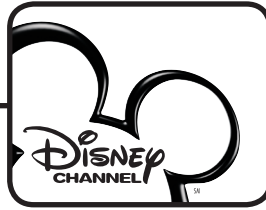
Have students fill in the blanks by writing or dictating their responses to an adult. Have students draw a picture of the gift in the space provided.

Create and Give

Let students make Lilo and Stitch cards that express their generosity toward one another. Write each child's name on a small slip of paper, one for each student, and put the folded slips in a bowl. Each student will reach in and pull out a piece of paper, then make a card for the classmate whose name he or she selected.

Provide supplies so each student can create a greeting card. The outside of the card should say, "It's about Giving." Let students decorate the outside of the card. The inside of the card should say, "If I could, I would give you [fill in]. Have students write or dictate what they would most like to give to that classmate, then have them draw the item. When students are finished, organize a holiday card-exchange.





MATH

Activity #1: Shape Up!

In "Topper," Pleakley notices that during Christmas, most of the objects that Earthlings use to decorate trees are the same shape. Ask students what that shape is [round or circular]. Use Pleakley's powers of observation to inspire students to look for two- and three-dimensional shapes, then create a class graph or Holiday Shape Tree as described below.

For Pre-K and Kindergarten: Shape Graph

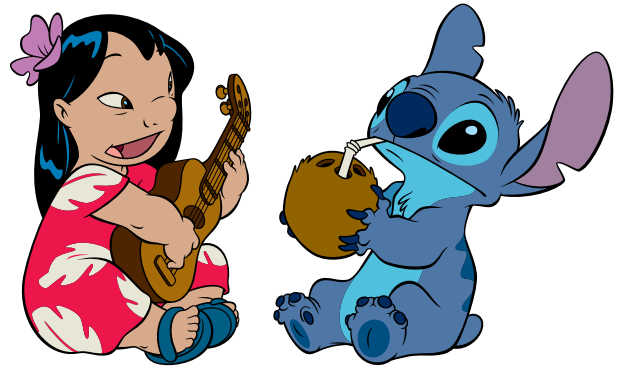
Discuss and show examples of these shapes: circle, square, triangle, rectangle, and diamond. Print **Disney's Lilo & Stitch: The Series** "Shape Up!" Worksheet.

Ask students to bring in from home one item of each shape. In class, have students draw the objects on their worksheets.

Create a large graph similar to the "Shape Up!" worksheet that you can lie on a table or floor. Have each student put his/her items in the appropriate columns on the graph.

Discuss each shape's appearance and properties:

- Does it have straight or curved sides?
- Does it have pointed edges?
- Does it have corners?
- Are the sides the same size?
- Does it look the same or different when you turn the shape?



For Grades 1 and 2: Holiday Shape Tree

As a class, discuss these three-dimensional shapes: cube, sphere, cone, pyramid, rectangular prism. Talk about the relationships between various two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional ones.

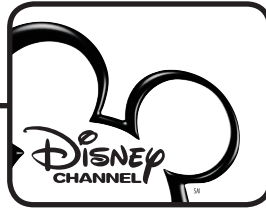
Ask students to bring in one small item of each shape. Explain that you will be hanging items on the shape tree, so they shouldn't be too heavy (like Pleakley's bowling ball!)

When students bring in items, first sort them on tables according to shape. Discuss the similarities and differences of the items:

- How many flat sides/faces?
- How many curved sides/faces?
- Are the edges straight, pointy, or curved?
- Does the object roll? On all sides?
- Can you stack this shape?

Point out items that approximate a given shape (such as by having rounded edges). Ask students if any items consist of two shapes attached together (for example, a sharpened pencil is a cone at the point and a cylinder along the shaft).

Use branches to create a tree. Use string and tape to hang the three-dimensional items from the branches. Display your Holiday Shape Tree in a prominent location.



RESOURCES

Internet

Winter Holidays Around the World

<http://maf.dept.uncg.edu/programs/opportunities/winterholidays.html>

Find capsule descriptions of holidays that occur in December and January.

Winter Holiday Round-Up

<http://www.factmonster.com/spot/winterholidays1.html>

Learn about seasonal holidays including Ramadan, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and more.

Holiday Fun

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/>

Activities, crafts, coloring pages, and clip art for holidays.

Diwali

<http://www.reachgujarat.com/diwali.htm>

Information on the holiday's origin and how each day of Diwali is celebrated in India.

Hanukah

<http://www.holidays.net/chanukah/>

Offers Hanukah crafts, songs you can play on your computer, information on Hanukah, and dates through 2008.

Kwanzaa

<http://www.melanet.com/kwanzaa/>

The Kwanzaa information center provides background information, descriptions of the Kwanzaa principles and symbols, and a celebration schedule.

Shapes

<http://www.first-school.ws/activities/books/shapes/shapethings.htm>

Crafts and activities using Dayle Ann Dodds' *The Shape of Things*.

The Meaning of Giving During the Holidays

http://www.ehow.com/how_10123_teach-children-importance.html

Ideas on how to teach children the importance of giving during the holidays.

Making the Holidays Less Materialistic

<http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/holidays/materialistic.html>

How to help kids avoid a bad case of "The Gimmes."

Books

Children Just Like Me: Celebrations!, by Anabel Kindersley and Barnabas Kindersley. DK Publishing, 1997.

Ed Emberley's Drawing Book of Animals, Ed Emberley. Little Brown & Co., 1970.

Step-by-step instructions show how to draw animals by using simple shapes.

Ed Emberley's Drawing Book: Make a World, Ed Emberley. Little Brown & Co., 1972.

If you can draw a few simple shapes, you can draw many everyday objects.

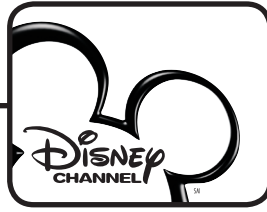
It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Kwanzaa, Rex Perry, Illustrator. Hyperion Books for Children, 2004.

The Shape of Things, Dayle Ann Dodds. 1996

The Story of Kwanzaa, Donna L. Washington. Harper Collins Publishers, 1996.

Sammy Spider's First Hanukkah, Sylvia A. Rouss, Kar-Ben Publishers, Inc., 1993.

Sammy watches the holiday celebrations and wants to spin the dreidel, but his mother tells him that spiders should only spin webs. Mom comes up with a solution when she knits socks for Sammy's eight feet.



Disney's
Lilo & Stitch
The Series



"It's about Giving" Worksheet

Student Name _____

Date _____

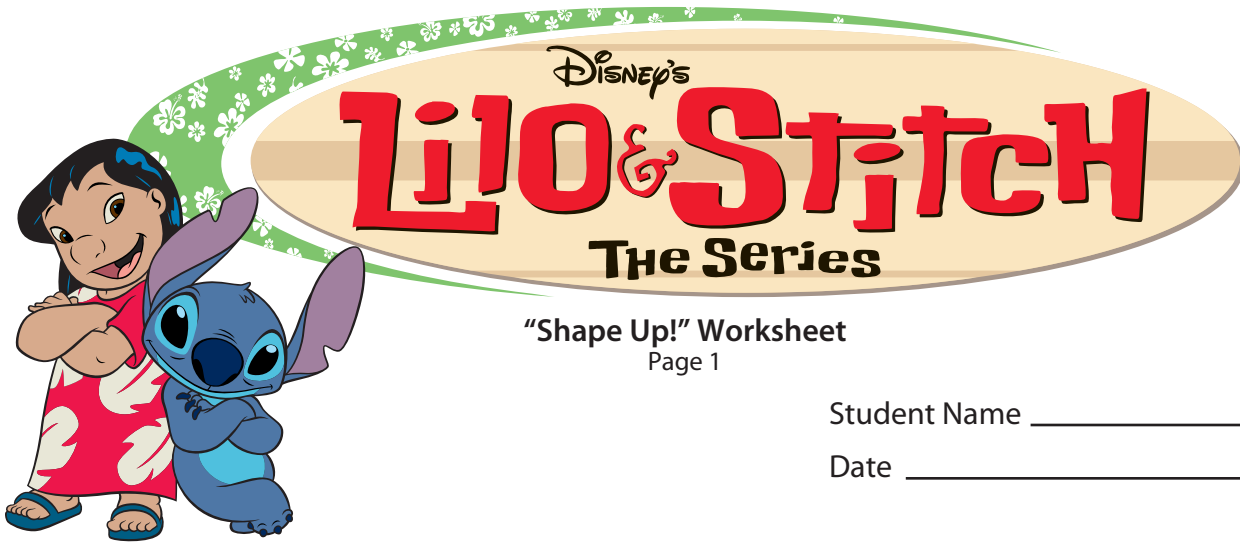
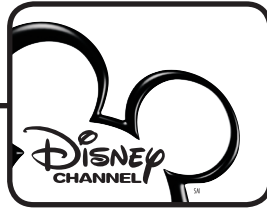
If I could, I would give _____
Name of Person

a _____
Name of Gift

because _____.

I would feel _____ if I did this.

Draw your gift here:





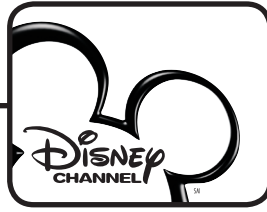
"Shape Up!" Worksheet
Page 1

Student Name _____

Date _____

Find an object that is an example of each shape. Draw your object in the space provided.

CIRCLE	SQUARE
	



"Shape Up!" Worksheet
Page 2

Student Name _____

Date _____

Find an object that is an example of each shape. Draw your object in the space provided.

TRIANGLE	RECTANGLE	DIAMOND
