



Candy Cane Celebrations!

Sit down together by candlelight with mugs of hot cocoa. Unwrap candy canes and use as stirring sticks. Mmm! Share memories of past Christmases.

Talk about different ways your family can share God's Love. Plan a party for neighbor children. Organize a caroling visit to a children's hospital or a nursing home. Take candy canes along and explain their meaning.

Cut out a white "stick," a white "J," and a "cane." Paint red stripes on the cane. Use these to practice telling each other the meaning of the candy cane.

Invite friends to a "Candy Cane Party."

- Ask guests to wear red and white clothing.
- Play Christmas charades by acting out Christmas carols.
- Draw & Guess: Draw pictures of Christmas items (manger, camel, angel, sheep, etc.) on large pieces of paper. Let everyone guess what is drawn.
- Read *A Candymaker's Gift* while guests lick candy canes.
- Let children take turns explaining the meaning of the candy cane.
- Mix a batch of play dough so everyone can make candy cane ornaments.
- Bake bread, rolls, or cookies in "cane" shapes.
- Serve red & white snacks: fruit, strawberry sundaes, muffins with red jam.

Front Yard Candy Stick

Decorate your mail box or yard light pole with strips of red plastic or oilcloth to make it look like stripes on a candy cane. Your special "candy cane pole" will provide opportunities to share its meaning.

Candy Cane Flower Vase

Turn 8" jars or coffee cans into Christmas flowerpots with two rows of 2-3 heavy rubber bands around upper and lower third of jar. Slip 8" or 9" candy canes side by side under the rubber bands (*about 20-24 canes for a 4" diameter can*). Tie red or green ribbons on top of the rubber bands.

