

Questions for Adults

When doing adult events, it is good practice to select a few of these questions you can ask individuals as you visit with them. It is a great way to prompt discussions. You can also use these questions like a game, going around the room. Have someone answer a question and ask if anyone can top that answer. Have a candy cane or small chocolate kiss for the winner.

At the end, ask people to vote for the best answer or the answer that was a surprise.

- What is your favorite family Christmas tradition?
- What's one place (real or fictional) that you'd love to visit during Christmastime?
- What's a holiday memory or story you tell every year?
- Do you like giving or getting gifts more? Be honest.
- Who do you wish was here right now? What would it be like if they were?
- What part of Christmas morning could you live over and over again?
- What was your favorite ornament on the tree growing up?
- What's something cliché about Christmas that you can't help but love?
- What's your best or weirdest Christmas tradition?
- When have you witnessed someone be over-the-top generous?
- What's the most memorable gift you've given someone?
- When should you put Christmas decorations up? When should you take them down?
- What do you like to do on Christmas Eve?
- Why is eggnog the greatest drink of all time? If not, why?
- Do you like real or fake Christmas trees? Why?
- What's something simple you could do to make someone's Christmas special.
- What's a present you have always wanted, but have never received?
- If you couldn't give any physical gifts for Christmas this year, what would you do instead?
- What's the last unexpected gift you received?
- What Christmas song do you like to sing? Can we all sing it?
- If you could say "thank you" to someone who's no longer in your life, what would it be for?
- What gifts do you remember getting as a kid?
- Do you remember giving someone a special gift as a kid? Who and what?
- Is it ever OK to re-gift?
- What is your favorite Christmas movie?
- What is your family's staple holiday dish or dessert?

These are good questions to use with anyone. Asking about childhood memories is good for someone who is in memory care. Those are the last memories to disappear.

Be extra patient with nursing home patients and smile! Talk to them face to face and wait for them to respond. If they don't, then share your answer to that question-a real memory or one that you create to make them laugh. It may help them to respond, or they may just enjoy it.

Many nursing home patients enjoy music. Even if you don't sing well, learn some Christmas songs. You can always play something on your phone for them to listen to.

Remembering Childhood Christmases

What was Christmas like when you were a child?

What was your favorite toy you received?

What other kinds of presents did you receive?

What was in your Christmas stocking?

Did you attend church?

What was the family Christmas meal like?

Were there celebrations on Christmas Eve and Christmas day? What did you do?

When did you get to open presents?

Did you ever give an adult a special gift? What was it and who did you give it to?

Remembering Christmases as an Adult

How did you celebrate Christmas as a young adult? With whom did you spend it?

Who made the Christmas meal?

What were presents like as an adult?

Do you have a favorite present you gave or one that you received as an adult?

Remembering Christmases as a parent

How did you celebrate Christmas with your children?

Did you start any new traditions or continue those you had as a child?

What kinds of presents did you give your children?

Do you have a favorite Christmas gift that you gave them or one where their reaction was priceless?

Christmas Trivia

Just ask the questions in whatever order you like and let people call out the answer. Another option is to ask the questions in order as you go around the room. If someone doesn't get the answer correctly ask everyone the question. You can give out chocolate kisses or small candy canes for correct answers.

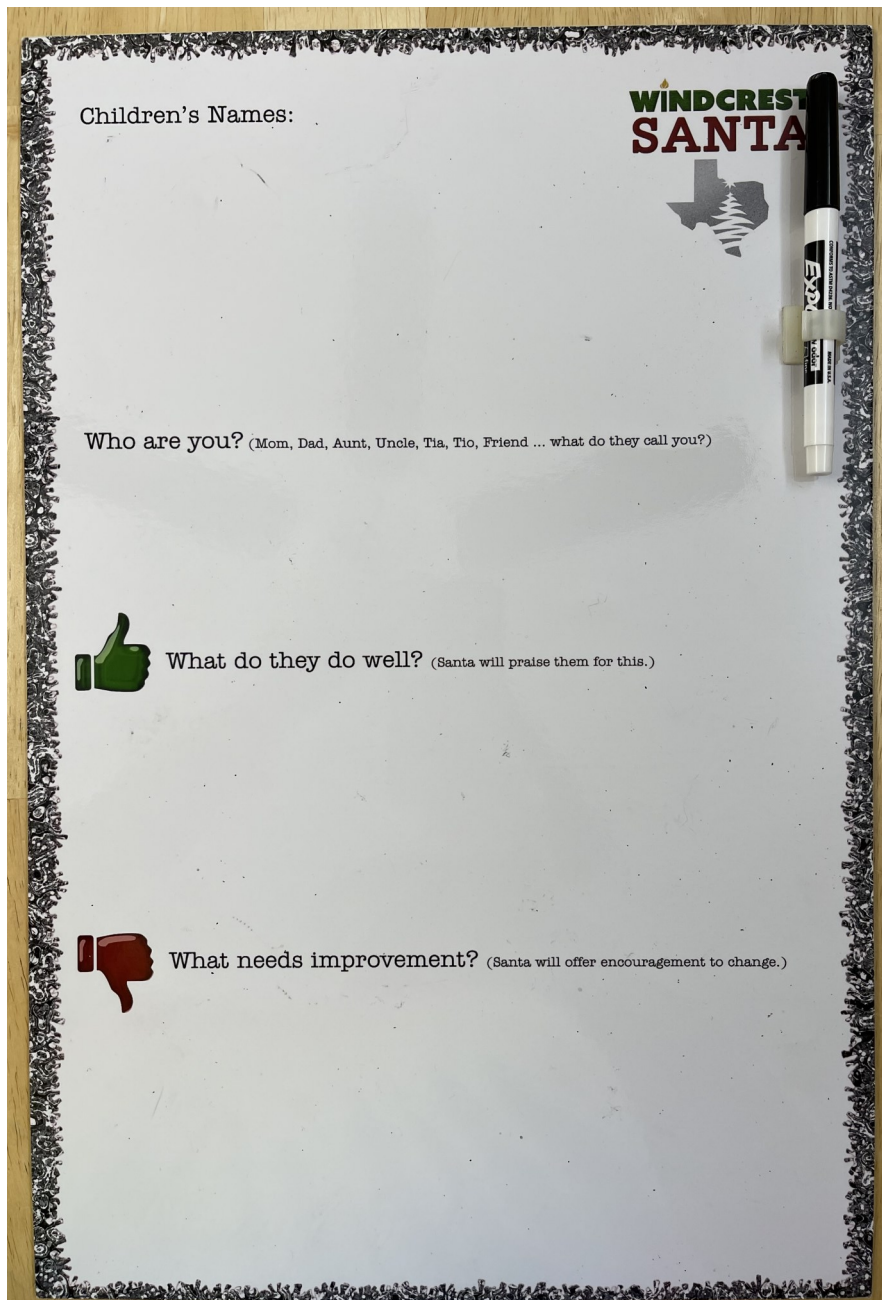
1. What color of Christmas am I dreaming? [A] *A White Christmas*
2. What is Tiny Tim famous for saying? [A] *God Bless Us, Everyone*
3. Name 3 items contained in Egg Nog. [A] *Sugar, Milk, Eggs*
4. What reindeer names does Santa Claus call out?
Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen [A] *Dasher, Dancer, Prancer,*
5. What is the night before Christmas? [A] *Christmas Eve*
6. On Christmas eve what snack is placed out for Santa? [A] *Cookies*
7. What is the name of the Christmas snowman? [A] *Frosty*
8. *What are the most popular Christmas time colors?* [A] *Red and Green*
9. Where can we exchange kisses at Christmas time? [A] *Below the mistletoe*
10. What was so good about the red nose that Rudolph had? [A] *It penetrated the mist and fog like a beacon.*
11. Name the popular red Christmas flower. [A] *Poinsettia*
12. Where is Santa Claus's workshop located? [A] *The North pole*
13. The words 'hear them ring' are found in what Christmas song? [A] *Silver Bells*
14. Name the somewhat spicy, edible Christmas house. [A] *Gingerbread House*
15. How do you say Merry Christmas in Spanish? [A] *Feliz Navidad*
16. Name a popular Christmas cake. [A] *fruit cake*

Dry Erase Boards For Adult Events

We had 4 dry erase boards made to take to adult events. They were pretty pricey, even all those years ago.

It would be easy to make the same thing using Cricut cutouts for the words. Small boards are 6 for \$25 on Amazon. If you don't use a Cricut machine, ask your friends for help.

You can also just print the questions on paper and throw them away when done.



We like the dry erase boards because the markers write big and clearly.

We usually have a line after we announce that we are willing to make a short video for their favorite children. We ask them to fill out the board and have a friend take the video with their phone so that they can be in the video. Mrs. Claus or someone else holds the board.

See this sample-

Santa begins with, "Look who I ran into! It's your mom, Tammy and Davy.

Tammy, she told me that you are such a good helper loading the dishwasher. She says you are a good reader too.

Davy, your mom told me that you feed your dog every day. She says you pick up all the toys in the living room before you go to bed.

Your mom would sure like it if you two would stop fighting. Santa would too.

I would also like for you to keep your rooms clean. On Christmas Eve I would like to peek in your room and not trip over anything.

I am proud of you both.

Merry Christmas! Ho-Ho-Ho!"