



Rock 'n' Retro

Holidays 2022 • Downtown San Luis Obispo

The Search for Santa's Mouse

DOWNTOWN SAN LUIS OBISPO

Scavenger Hunt & Activity Book



BROUGHT TO YOU BY



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The Story of Santa's Mouse

Inspired by Michael Brown's *Santa Mouse* - 1966

Once upon a time in a town called SLO
There lived a little mouse and he traveled to and fro.
He lived downtown and all throughout the day
He visited the shops and in the Plaza he would play.

Now this little tiny mouse, he didn't have a name,
but the friendly folks downtown, they liked him all the same.
All throughout the year, he saved a special piece of cheese
He treasured it and loved it so; he knew that it would please
whomever he would give it to. Then, one Christmas Eve,
He trimmed his tiny whiskers, he pushed up his tiny sleeves,
and he pondered, in his generous way, as he washed his paws,
"How sad is it that no one gives a gift to Santa Claus?"

Santa gives a gift to everyone, each Charlie, Juan and Sally!"
And so he fetched a wrapper that he found near Bubblegum Alley.
He took his precious chunk of cheese and wrapped it up real tight,
He tucked the gift beneath his tree and then he said good night.

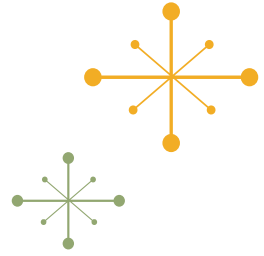
The little mouse went up the stairs and nestled in his bed.
Soon a vision came to him, as dreams filled up his head.
Why, Santa Claus himself appeared, opened his mouth and said,

"Thank you, Mouse, for my gift of cheese. Tell me what's your name?"
"Hi Santa!" said the tiny mouse. "I'm so glad you came!
I'm just a mouse who lives in SLO. I haven't got a name."

Santa laughed, "Ho ho ho!
You haven't? That's a shame.
I've got an idea. You know,
I need some help this season,

Do you like to fly through snow?
It surely would be pleasing.

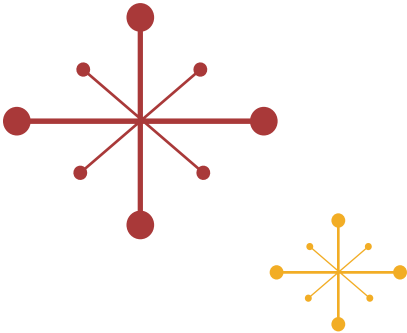
I'll give you a beard and I'll give you a suit.
And here are two tiny, shiny boots.
You mustn't sneeze, and don't you cough,
Brush your whiskers, and we'll be off!"



Then Santa and the Mouse went out and all across the land,
delivering gifts across the world, the mouse in Santa's hand.
Up in the sleigh they traveled, on a journey with no end,
away they went together, Santa and his tiny friend.

The reindeer pulled the sleigh along,
as they traveled around the world and back.
"I'll give you a name," the jolly man said.
"I shall call you Colby Jack!"

So think of Colby Jack this year
as you put presents beneath your trees.
Remember to give to your near and dear
like the mouse with his piece of cheese.



The Search for Santa's Mouse

Santa's Mouse is out and about delivering presents! Use these clues to find the miniature scenes throughout downtown, then fill in the blanks at each clue to solve the secret code at the end.

*Location answers are printed at the bottom of page 9.
To view the clues online, visit slocm.org/santasmouse.*

**First, find where the trip began
At the house of a famous, jolly old man!**

What kind of juice is being served?

O _____

**The next stop on his journey through SLO
Was at a place where visitors go.**

The chairs are gathered around the...

R _____

**Down Monterey Street, let's explore
SLO's famous local record store!**

What color is the classic car?



**Santa's Mouse took his reindeer fleet
To leave gifts somewhere sweet on Court Street.**

This dance is decorated with colorful...



**Next the mouse headed to see his friends on Chorro
who support all the businesses in Downtown SLO.**

*Every summer, Concerts in the Plaza takes place in front
of the historic...*



To find his next stop, you would be smart
If you searched at a place with a bunch of great art!

What instrument is in this living room?

_____ A O _____

It's now time to rest – what a busy day!
The mouse ended his journey where children can play.

*It must be Christmas Eve since **these** are hung on the fireplace!*

_____ O T _____ S _____

Secret Code

Write the circled letters from the puzzles you completed to discover the secret code.

Here's a hint: We often wrap presents in bows and...

Enter to win a membership to the San Luis Obispo Children's Museum!

Just fill out the information below, rip out this page along the dotted line and place it in the box at the last location of your search.

Name _____

Phone (_____) _____ - _____



One membership will be given away each week through the New Year!

You Can Play Membership

Includes 4 named people from the same household*

- Unlimited visits
- \$1.50 off admission for your guests
- 50% off general admission for 6 people at almost 200 participating children's museums
- 20% off birthday parties
- 10% off Shop purchases

\$145 value

** Household is defined as a parent, guardian or caregiver, children, grandparents and grandchildren.*

slocm.org/join



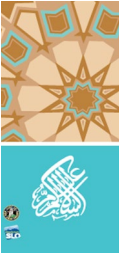
...And don't miss out on the famous Downtown SLO Farmers' Market!

Every Thursday at 6 PM, Higuera Street, Downtown San Luis Obispo

Enjoy five blocks of over 100 vendors offering fresh produce, famous BBQ, delicious meals, crafts, baked goods, entertainment, and MORE!

Winter Holidays Around the World

Look for these banners on your downtown adventure to learn about the holidays they represent!



The symbol on this banner, ***As-salamu alaykum***, is a year-round greeting in Arabic that means, “May peace be upon you.” The design is inspired by elements in Turkish architecture.



Chinese or Lunar New Year is the festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year based on the traditional Chinese calendar. Celebrations often include lighting lanterns, giving gifts and watching fireworks. Lanterns are featured on the banner, along with clouds that signify good luck. The Chinese character *Fú* means “fortune.” Chinese New Year is on January 22, 2023.

The Search for Santa's Mouse Locations (in order)
Santa's House (Mission Plaza), SLO Visitor Center, Boo Boo Records,
SLO Sweets, Downtown SLO, SLO Museum of Art, SLO Children's Museum



Christmas is celebrated as a major Christian holiday in many countries around the world. In the United States, popular celebrations include decorating a Christmas tree, caroling and giving gifts. Saint Nicholas, or Santa Claus, is said to bring good children a gift during the night before Christmas. Christmas Day is on December 25.



Hanukkah is the Jewish eight-day "festival of lights," celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting and games including dreidel, as pictured on the banner. "L'chaim" is a celebratory expression in Hebrew that means "to life." Hanukkah 2022 begins on the evening of December 18 and ends on the evening of December 26.



Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration to honor African heritage, culminating in gift-giving and a feast. There are 7 principles of Kwanzaa: *Umoja* (Unity), *Kujichaglia* (Self-Determination), *Ujima* (Collective Work and Responsibility), *Ujamaa* (Cooperative Economics), *Nia* (Purpose), *Kuumba* (Creativity) and *Imani* (Faith). Kwanzaa begins on December 26, 2022 and ends on January 1, 2023.



In the United States, **New Year** traditions include fireworks, counting down to the stroke of midnight, making New Year's resolutions and singing "Auld Lang Syne." New Year's Eve is December 31 and New Year's Day is January 1.



In Latin American cultures, **Noche Buena** (Christmas Eve) is often a bigger celebration than Christmas Day. Families gather together to share a special meal and celebrate with music and dancing. Poinsettias are a popular symbol and are called *flor de Noche Buena*. Noche Buena is December 24.



On the last day of the year, the Japanese tradition of **Omisoka** is observed, where people often complete activities for the concluding year, such as house cleaning and repaying debts. The *kadomatsu* featured on this banner are traditional Japanese decorations placed in pairs in front of homes to welcome ancestral spirits, or *kami*, of the harvest. The characters coupled with the *kadomatsu* imagery deliver a message of "Happy New Year."

Colored Ice Sculptures

They are easy to make and a creative building activity.



You'll need

cups, muffin tins, containers, and bowls of various sizes and shapes

water

food coloring or liquid watercolors

Directions

Dye water using food coloring or liquid watercolors. Pour the water into various containers and freeze.

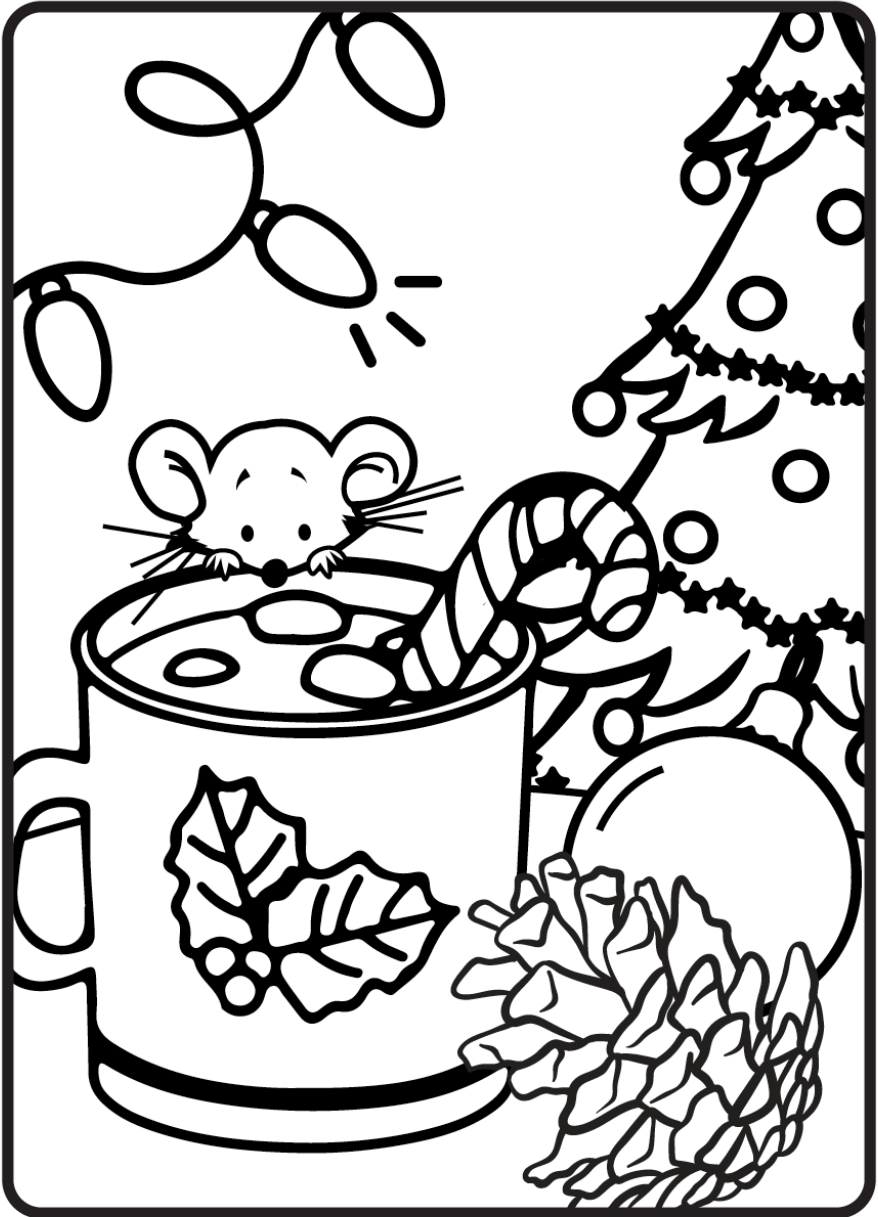
Once frozen, run the containers under warm water to loosen and remove the ice.

You can use the ice shapes in a sensory play bin or take them outside and create unexpected winter sculptures.

Write to Santa!

When you stop at Santa's House in Mission Plaza, drop off your holiday wish list! Write your letter and tear page 13 along the dotted line and drop it in the Plaza mailbox before December 15th. Keep an eye out for a response from the North Pole!

Remember to include your name and address!



New Year's Resolutions

As 2022 comes to a close, it's time to turn our eyes to the new year. Have you thought about 2023 and what your hopes are? Now is the perfect time to look back on the past year and plan for the new!

Gratitude for 2022

What is your funniest memory from this year?

Name three things you were grateful for in 2022.

What new skills did you discover this year?

2023 Resolutions

This year, I will try...

I will do more of...

My resolution is...

Holiday Happenings in Downtown San Luis Obispo

Around Downtown

Explore and celebrate
local!

ALL SEASON LONG!

Shop Small Saturday

Nov 26, 2022

Decorated Window
Showcase

Holiday Lights

Unique Shops & Dining

Holiday Plaza

Lights, sights, and family fun in Mission Plaza!

Sponsored by the San Luis Obispo Collection

NOV 25, 2022 – JAN 2, 2023

Santa's House

Through Dec 24, 2022

Sponsored by American Riviera Bank

Classic Carousel

Letters to/from Santa

20-foot Holiday Tree

Dazzling Displays

Live Entertainment

Musical Light Show

The
San Luis Obispo
COLLECTION

AMERICAN RIVIERA
BANK

46th Annual Holiday Parade

Sponsored by American Riviera Bank

FRIDAY, DEC 2, 2022

7-9 PM



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