

FESTIVALS · K-Y3

Color the Festivals

Patterns and meanings from around the world

About this pack

Four festivals, four coloring activities. Each one teaches the meaning behind the colors before children pick up their pencils. The goal isn't just decoration — it's understanding why these colors matter to the cultures who use them.

1. Diwali Rangoli

Rangoli colors and meanings

Color	Where it comes from traditionally	What it represents
Red	Crushed cinnabar / hibiscus	Strength, energy
Yellow	Turmeric powder	Auspiciousness, holiness
Green	Crushed leaves	Nature, harmony
Blue	Indigo plant	Krishna's color; truth



Color	Where it comes from traditionally	What it represents
Orange	Marigold petals	Sacrifice, fire
White	Rice flour	Peace, purity

Color a rangoli

Print or draw a rangoli pattern (a circular geometric design with petals, dots, and curves). Use the colors from the table above. Try to balance the colors — rangolis are usually symmetrical, so if one petal is red, the petal opposite it should be red too. The pattern looks best when you alternate warm (red, orange, yellow) and cool (blue, green) colors.

2. Chinese New Year decorations

Chinese New Year color guide

Element	Color	Why
Lanterns	Bright red	Brings good luck; scares away evil spirits
Tassels on lanterns	Gold or yellow	Wealth and prosperity
The character ■ (fú)	Black on red	'Good fortune' — often hung upside down to mean 'fortune arrives'
Zodiac animal pictures	Use natural colors of the animal	The zodiac changes each year (rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake...)
Backgrounds	Red or gold	Both auspicious colors



Color Chinese New Year decorations

Print a Chinese lantern outline. Color the body bright red, the tassels gold, and the paper edges with a thin black line. If you have a ■ character, color the character black on a red background. Hang your decorations around the room.

3. Christmas tree ornaments

Christmas color guide

Element	Color	Why
Tree	Dark green	Evergreen — stays alive in winter
Baubles (round ornaments)	Mix of red, gold, silver, blue	Decorative; reflect candlelight
Star at the top	Gold or yellow	The star that led the wise men to Jesus
Tinsel / garland	Silver or gold	Sparkle
Holly	Green leaves, red berries	Symbolic; protective tradition
Candles or lights	Yellow / orange / mixed	Light in winter darkness

4. Eid al-Fitr — Moon and stars



Eid color guide

Element	Color	Why
Crescent moon	Silver or white	The moon — central to the Islamic calendar
Stars	Gold or silver	Celebration; light
Lanterns (fanoos)	Mixed colors — gold, red, green, blue	Common in Egyptian and Levantine Eid traditions
Background	Deep green or navy blue	Islamic green; or night sky
Greetings (Eid Mubarak)	Gold lettering	Festive, special-occasion

For adults using this pack

