

A New Tradition



Ryan sat looking, sadly out the big picture window in the front room of his house. He loved that window. From there, he could see the tall oak trees and pine trees that filled his front yard. In the wintertime, their big branches would be covered with snow and beautiful. He especially liked it when his dad decorated the big trees with hundreds of twinkling



lights for the Christmas season. So, why was Ryan sad? His family was moving to sunny southern California in just a few weeks. No more Christmas with snowmen, snowball fights, sledding, and ice skating on the frozen pond. Ryan felt sure Christmas Day would never be the same.



When his dad came into the room, he asked Ryan why he was so glum. Ryan told him how much he was going to miss their snowy northern Christmas traditions. He asked if you could even put Christmas lights on palm trees. He didn't think he would like wearing shorts and a t-shirt on Christmas Day instead of



a winter coat, cap, gloves, and snow boots. Nothing about southern California seemed to compare to their home in Minnesota.

Ryan's dad said he understood how Ryan was feeling and admitted he felt a little of that himself. But, he also felt pretty sure Ryan would enjoy swimming in the ocean, playing on the sandy beach, and seashell hunting. He asked him to please give California a try. He assured his son that his family would find a way to make Christmas in California special by creating new traditions. Ryan agreed to keep an open mind.



1. Ryan loves the big _____ in the front room of his house.
☐ door ☐ television
☐ window ☐ rug
2. Ryan was sad because his family is moving to _____.
☐ southern California ☐ Alaska
☐ Germany ☐ New York City
3. He was worried that the family's _____ traditions would change.
☐ birthday ☐ Christmas
☐ Thanksgiving ☐ summer vacation
4. Ryan's _____ assured him that they will make new traditions.
☐ dad ☐ grandfather
☐ brother ☐ teacher