Candlelight History Hunt 3rd-5th Grade

Christmas in the 19th Century

Christmas in early Dallas tended to be a simple holiday. Early settlers often used the holidays as a reason to celebrate the passing of another year. By 1848, Dallas hosted annual Christmas balls, featuring music and food.

Christmas trees became common in the 1870s. Many public places, such as churches and schools, would decorate a Christmas tree. It wasn't until a few years later that trees became more common in homes.

Store-bought toys did; not become common gifts: for children until the turn of the century. Prior to that, items such as fireworks, candy, fruit and clothing were much! more common. Santa Claus first appears in Christmas stories in the late 1880s, but ourl modern image of him doesn't emerge until the I 1910s.

While you visit the *
Village, notice the changes in Christmas celebrations.

What household objects in the **de Léon House** suggest holiday celebrations?

Why might there be a Christmas tree in the **Renner Schoolhouse**?

Look at the **Miller Log House** and **Millermore** decorations. How are they different?

Visit the **Blum Brothers General Store**. What would you buy as a holiday gift for someone in your family? What important things help the **Blum Brothers General Store** make money during the holidays?

Describe how the **Sullivan House** is decorated.

*	How is the Farmstead decorated?
*	What kind of presents are under the tree at the Farmstead ? Are they similar or different from presents under your own tree?
*	In which buildings can you find presents under the Christmas tree?
*	What December holiday is celebrated in the Blum House ? What objects in the house help them celebrate? What do they have that no one else does?
them que with: • How days • Wha make • Wha	Character Chat u meet a historic character, ask estions. You might try starting do you celebrate the holi- ? t kind of special foods do you e or eat to celebrate? t kind of presents might be er the tree?