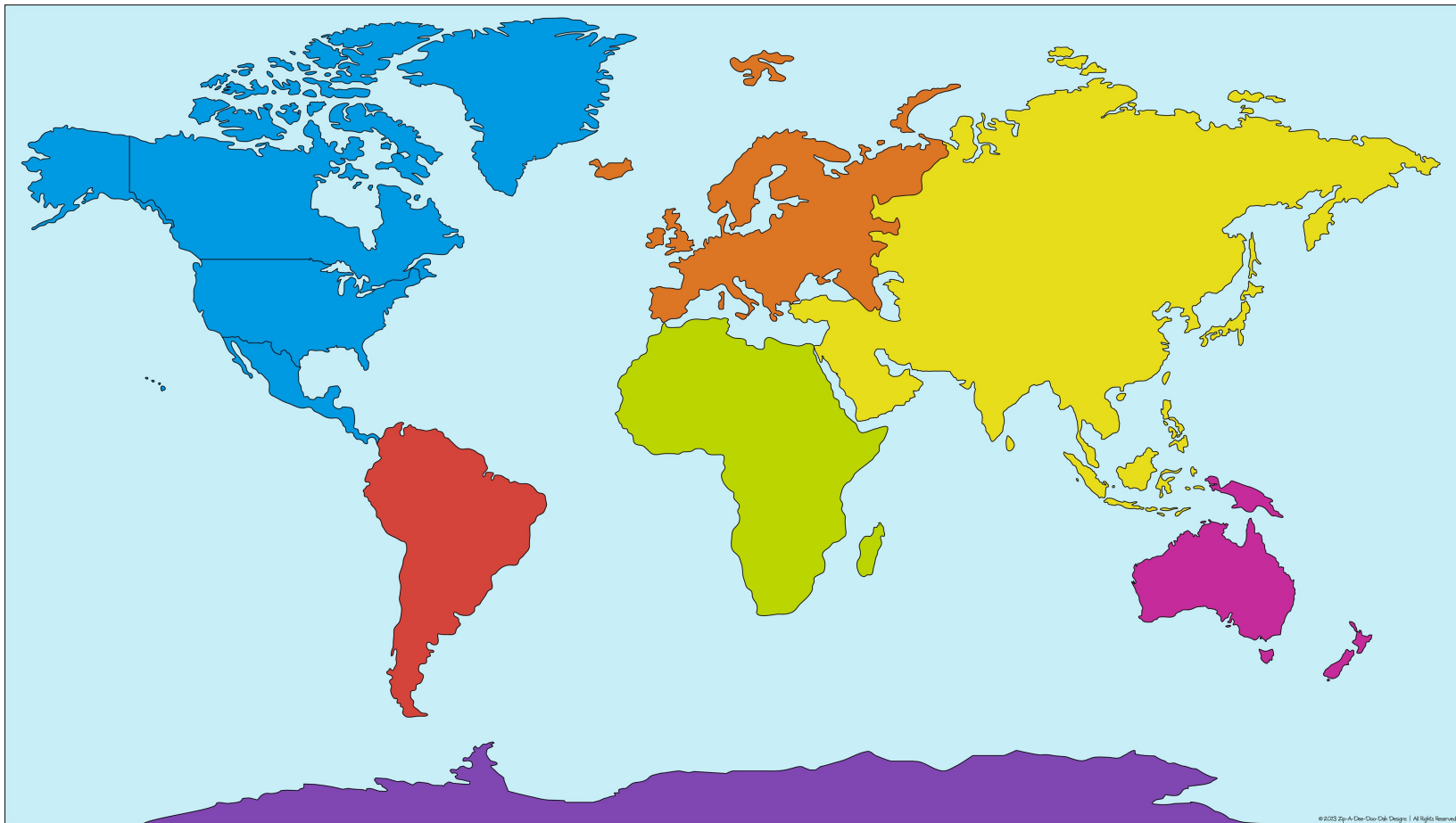


# CHRISTMAS IN RUSSIA



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# HOLIDAY FOOD



**kutia**



**kulebyaka**



**pastila**



**meat & fish**



# SANTA TRADITIONS



The Russian Santa Claus is called Ded Moroz, or Father Frost. On New Year's Eve, he puts gifts for children under the New Year tree. His granddaughter travels with him. She is a snow maiden named Snegurochka. Father Frost carries a staff and wears a red, blue, silver or gold coat lined with white fur. He also wears felt boots made of wool. He is tall and thin and travels in a *troika*, a vehicle pulled by three horses.



# TRADITIONS



**nesting dolls**



**church service**



**fortune telling**



**lacquer boxes**



# FACTS



Some Russians celebrate Christmas on January 7th with their family. New Year's Day is also a big day in Russia. Christmas trees are called New Year trees, or yolkas.



Some people fast for 40 days during the Christmas season called the Nativity Fast. Then they eat dinner together to break the fast with 12 dishes to represent 12 apostles.



One traditional story is that of Babushka - an old woman who met the wise men on their way to see Jesus. Some Russians do fortune-telling at their Christmas celebrations.

