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Winter Warm-Up Holiday Trivia

1. Which holiday is observed by the entire world, regardless of cultural or religious belief?
2. What was the original name of Veterans Day?
3. Why is St. Patrick's Day celebrated on March 17?
4. What country did the "Jack O'Lantern" story originate from, and what vegetable were they carved out of?
5. Which Christian saint assembled the first "nativity scene" in 1223?
6. What reported miracle is the reason for Hanukkah, the annual Jewish "festival of lights," lasting eight days?
7. What "other Independence Day" is celebrated on June 19 in America and what does it commemorate?
8. When the religious group later known as the Pilgrims left England to practice their religion freely, where did they go, and why didn't they stay?
9. What holiday became popular after it was featured on an episode of *Seinfeld*?
10. What animal was consulted regarding weather predictions regarding the last six weeks of winter in medieval Germany? Hint: NOT a groundhog.

Sources: All About American Holidays by Maymie R. Krythe, 1962; Holiday Trivia from www.usefultivia.com, History of Thanksgiving Trivia Questions from www.conversationstarterworld.com



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Holiday Trivia Answers

1. New Year's Day
2. Armistice Day
3. St. Patrick died on March 16, in the year 493.
4. Ireland. Turnips were used to make them.
5. St. Francis of Assisi
6. The small amount of oil found in a defiled temple rededicated by Judah of Maccabee lit the temple for 8 days.
7. Juneteenth, which commemorates the end of American slavery, specifically the announcement of the abolition of slavery in the state of Texas.
8. They went to Holland but did not wish to assimilate with the culture, so moved on to America.
9. Festivus
10. A badger