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**Prince & Princes Essay Contest**

**Girl #7** (age 12)

The Christmas spirit appears differently to everyone, but to me it is the simple fact of being happy just because. The Christmas spirit should be genuine. During Christmas we should give because we want to, love because we do, and show others how much we love them. The Christmas spirit, to me, is the most important part of the holidays. The Christmas spirit fills the Christmas season, and all of us with joy. Christmas should be a time of giving just to give, and celebrating with the people we love. We should be happy and make others happy as well. The spirit of Christmas has nothing to do with decorations, or any other tradition that we do to celebrate it. Those things help us show and get into the Christmas spirit, of course, but the feelings, the genuine peace, happiness, hope and love that we feel around this time, *that* is the real Christmas spirit.