



Christmas Activity Pack

Filled with lots of Christmas themed quizzes, colouring, recipes, poems and much more.

Created by the Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin Day Services Team

Christmas Alpha – numericals

Can you spot the phrases associated with Christmas from the following clues?

1. 3 **W M**
2. 12 **D** of **C**
3. 3 **K** of **O A**
4. **D** 25 is **C D**
5. 1 **P** in a **P T**
6. 5 **G R**
7. 24 **W** on an **A C**
8. **J** 1 is **N Y D**
9. 31 **D** in **D**
10. 1 **F** on a **C T**
11. **J** 6 is **E**
12. **D** 26 is **S S D**
13. 6 **S** to a **S**
14. 1 **C** on a **C**
15. 2 **L** on a **T**





Complete the Christmas alphabet from the given clues

The period leading up to Christmas	A _____
The town in which Jesus was born	B _____
Songs sung at Christmas	C _____
The month in which Christmas falls	D _____
When the Magi meet Christ	E _____
Popular song of the festive season	F _____
What we all like receiving at Christmas	G _____
Plant with prickly leaves and red berries	H _____
There was no room here for Mary and Joseph	I _____
The reason for it all	J _____
Another name for Santa Claus	K _____
Put on the tree as a decoration	L _____
Where the baby was laid	M _____
The story of Christmas	N _____
The fruit used in a Christingle	O _____
Mexican plant often associated with Christmas	P _____
3.00pm on Christmas Day	Q _____
The reindeer with a shiny nose	R _____
What the Three Kings followed	S _____
Also known as lametta	T _____
Where the presents are found	U _____
One of Santa's reindeer	V _____
A hot mulled cider drink at Christmas	W _____
A shortened form of Christmas	X _____
Known as 'Buche de Noel' in France	Y _____
Often used to mean Jerusalem	Z _____



**Can you name these well-known Christmas carols
from the first line of the second verse?**

The cattle are lowing, _____

Still through the cloven skies they come, _____

They looked up and saw a star, _____

'Fear not' said he, for mighty dread, _____

Christ, by highest heaven adored, _____

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns, _____

In Bethlehem, In Israel, _____

Lead by the light of faith serenely beaming, _____

For Christ is born of Mary, _____

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, _____

See the blazing yule before us, _____

E'en so here below, below, _____

The holly bears a blossom, _____

Hither page and stand by me, _____

God of God, Light of Light, _____

He came down to earth from Heaven, _____

And what was in those ships all three, _____

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, _____

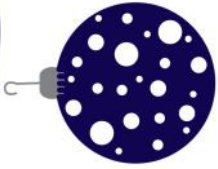


Christmas Quiz

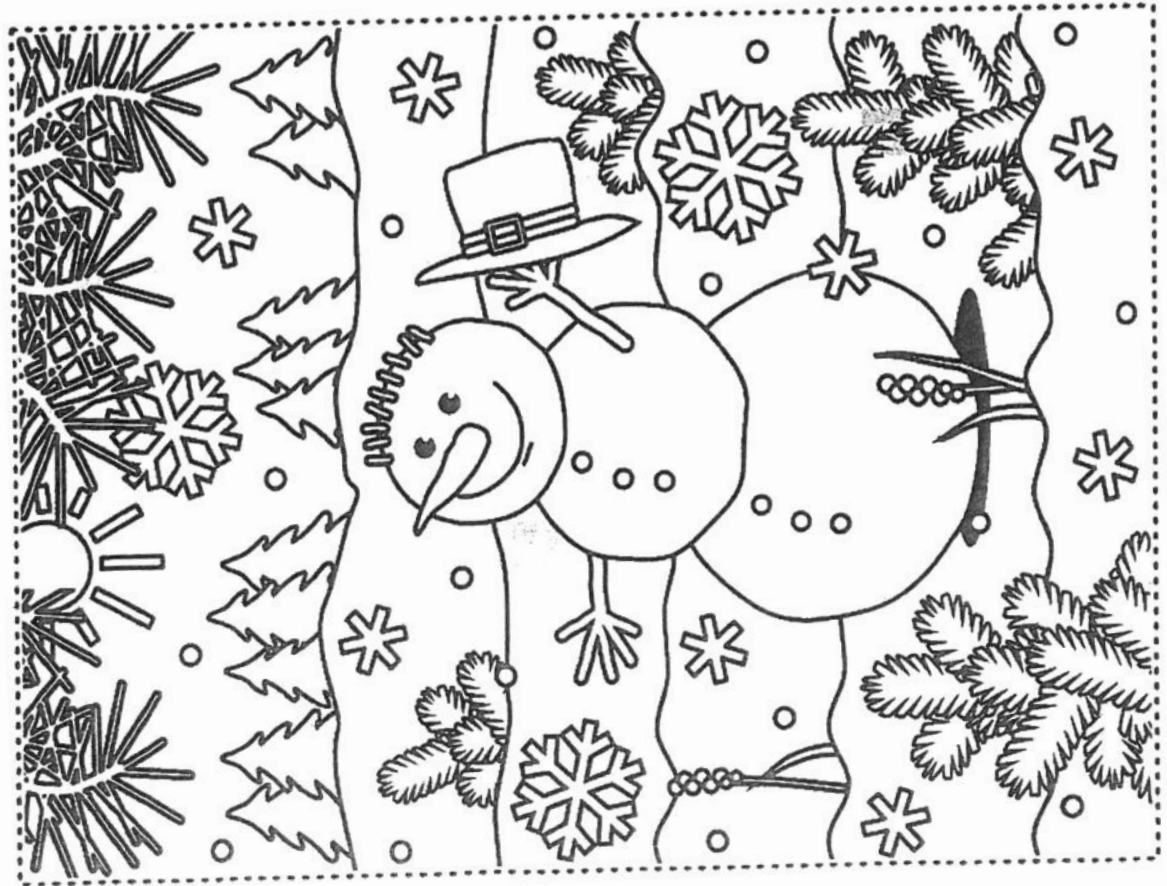
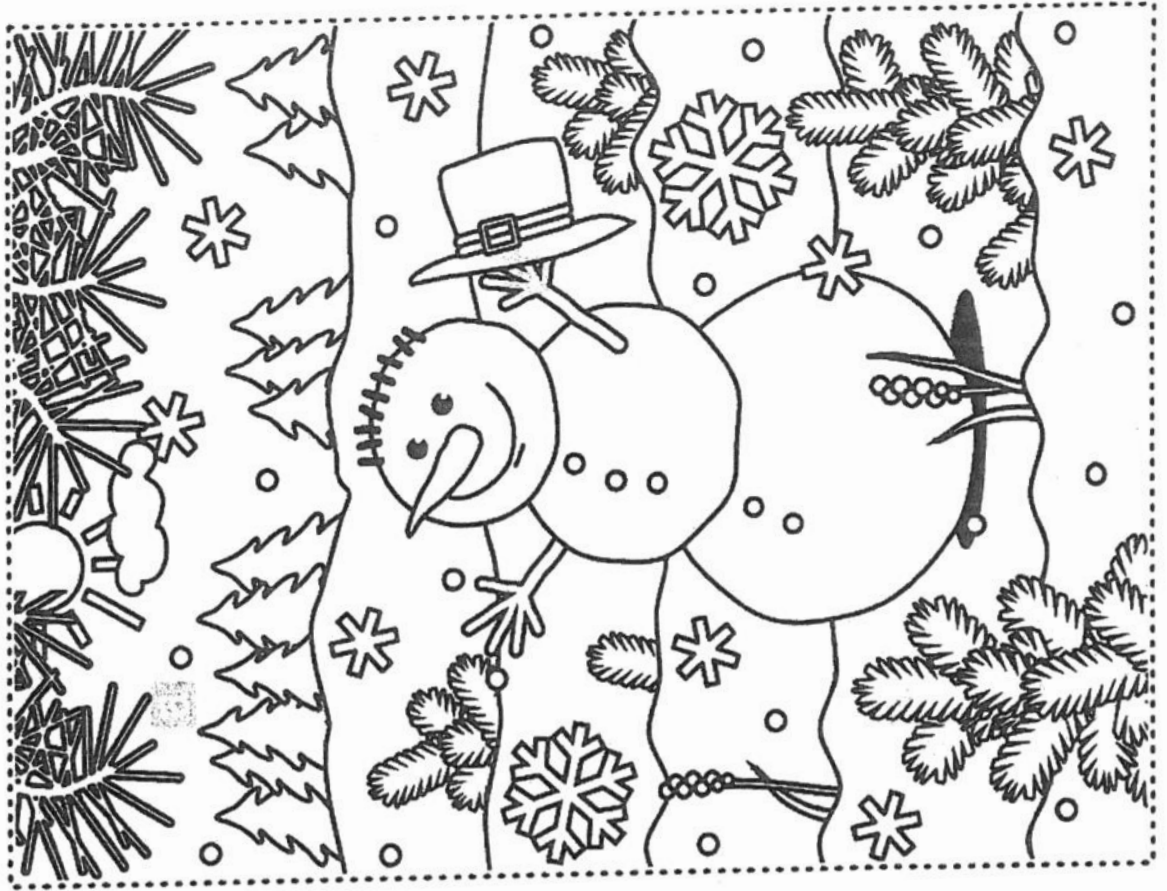
1. The Twelve Days of Christmas traditionally finish on which date?
2. What date is St Stephen's Day?
3. The song White Christmas was first performed in which 1942 film?
4. Name the original eight reindeer from the 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' poem?
5. Who is officially credited as the author of Auld Lang Syne?
6. Christmas Island, in the Indian Ocean, is a territory of which country?
7. Which Christmas condiment is made from fruit sometimes referred to as marshworts?
8. In the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', how many swans were a-swimming?
9. 'Nadolig Llawen' means Merry Christmas in which European language?
10. How many presents were given in total in the 12 Days of Christmas?
11. What is the chemical formula of snow?
12. Who was the first British monarch to broadcast a Christmas message to the nation?
13. Which Christmas item was invented by London baker and wedding-cake specialist Tom Smith in 1847?
14. Who banned Christmas in England between 1647 and 1660?
15. What is the name of the cake traditionally eaten in Italy at Christmas?
16. From which country does the poinsettia plant originate?
17. The words 'You better watch out, you better not cry' are words taken from which Christmas song?
18. How many points does a snowflake have?
19. What two words will you almost always find on Christmas gift tags?
20. What is a baby reindeer called?







Find the ten differences between the two pictures.



Jack the Cat - part 2

One day, Jack the cat, was hurrying along the little lane, or 'shut', that goes down the side of the Musical Hall. He was cold and wanted to find shelter under the arches of the old market in The Square. When he got there, he found a piece of old sacking in a corner, and curled up to go to sleep.

Jack had noticed a lot of things happening in the last few weeks. Lights were suddenly going off and on in the most unusual places! They were up in the air, over the roads and in windows everywhere! Trees had suddenly grown on the pavement and some were growing out of the walls of the high buildings! He could see one enormous tree that had suddenly grown in The Square and it was covered with lights! "Something is different," he thought "but it must be good, because everyone is smiling and looking happy."

Jack sat quietly in a corner and he watched as more and more people came to stand in The Square- in front of the coffee shop, in front of the bank, and in front of the health food shop, hundreds of people came and stood.

Jack watched as a big brass band arrived. They were marching down the High Street and the music sounded bright and jolly. He knew about bands, as he often heard them play in the bandstand, in the Quarry.

All the people started to sing. They were songs about a baby. "How happy the town is tonight," thought Jack, "and it isn't raining! I don't like rain."

Now, luckily, Jack stayed under the cover of the Old Market Hall, as a very funny thing happened. There was a slight hum of an engine, Jack watched curiously as a snow machine started to blow out pretend snow, all over The Square, all over the band and all over the people. Some children laughed out loud, as blobs of snow fell on their noses, their heads and their hands. Some people tried to move away from the falling snow. "It's making us look like snowmen!" they said.



“How lucky I am,” thought Jack, “I’m not covered in snow and my coat is still black.” And it was! Black, that is, except for the little white blob on his nose!

Shrewsbury is a very old town. The river Severn curls like a worm around it and there are lots of bridges.

Jack, the cat, doesn’t like rain, in fact, he doesn’t like water at all, and so he DEFINITELY doesn’t like the river!

One day, Jack decided he would look for his dinner near the litter bins in the Quarry playground. There might even be an ice cream van parked by the Quarry gates! You know how Jack loves to eat ice cream!

He began to walk past the bandstand and down the slope of the green grass towards the river. The grass felt very wet on his paws, so he thought he would walk along the path towards the slides and children’s rides. As he got closer to the path his green eyes grew large with amazement! No path! The river had grown sideways, all over the playground, all over the path and, if he kept going, it would be all over Jack! “Oh dear” thought Jack, “I shall have to find my dinner somewhere else today. Somewhere away from all this water.”

He walked up to the swimming pool café and gave a sad “meow” at the door. He never went inside, as you know he doesn’t like water, and there is lots of water in the pool!

A lady from the café came up to see him and said “Hello Jack. Would you like a currant bun and a saucer of milk this morning?” Jack purred loudly.

What kind people live in Shrewsbury,” thought Jack, “Aren’t I a lucky cat to live in this watery town”.



A Visit from St Nicholas

By Clement Clarke Moore

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
The children were nestled all snug in their beds;
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow,
Gave a lustre of midday to objects below,
When what to my wondering eyes did appear,
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny rein-deer,
With a little old driver so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment he must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:
"Now, *Dasher!* now, *Dancer!* now *Prancer* and *Vixen!*
On, *Comet!* on, *Cupid!* on, *Donner* and *Blitzen!*
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"
As leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,



When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky;
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too—
And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
And he looked like a pedler just opening his pack.

His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples, how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little round belly
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight—
“Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!”





Father Christmas

By George Hill, Shrewsbury

I'd like to be Father Christmas
He only works once a year
He's the symbol of Yuletide Jollies
And I long for him to appear.

I still get so excited
And gaze up to the heavens
Hoping to catch a glimpse of him
Even though I'm eighty seven

I'm still a kid at heart you see
And I hope I always will be
I've really been good so I hope to find
Lots of presents under my tree.





A Christmas Truce

By George Hill, Shrewsbury

A truce has been agreed in our house,
It was discussed amicably,
Between Hugo the cat and Roger the mouse,
Who now live in harmony.

Confrontation and enmity are futile.
Or so say's Hugo the cat,
I couldn't agree more say's Roger the mouse,
So let's get rid of all that.

Come closer to me young Roger,
I'll keep you warm whenever it snows
And perhaps we can set an example
As our love and friendship grows.

Human beings can be so silly sometimes,
They should learn from history.
That conflict and anger breeds more of the same.
They should take heed of you and me.

Our Christmas truce is forever,
Or until the end of time
So be a good friend to someone today.
Oh, and thank you for reading this rhyme.





Missing Letters – Christmas food and drink

Can you name these Christmas food and drinks by filling in the missing letters?

1. __U__K__Y
2. __R__N__E__R__ __A__C__
3. __L__M __U__D__N__
4. __I__C__ __I__S
5. __R__N__Y __A__C__
6. __H__I__T__A__ __A__E
7. __U__L__D __I__E
8. __H__R__Y
9. __O__S__ __O__A__O__S
10. __R__Z__L __U__S



Boil and Bake Cake

From Jan Nicholls

Ingredients	
16 oz	Mixed Dried Fruit
8 oz	Butter
6 oz	Dark Brown Sugar
12 oz	Self Raising Flour sifted
½ teaspoon	Mixed Spice
½ teaspoon	Bicarbonate of Soda
2 Eggs	Size 3
2 oz	Glaze Cherries
2 oz	Walnut Halves
	Honey to Glaze

Method

1. Pre heat the oven at Gas Mark 2/300⁰F/150⁰C
2. Grease and line a 9 inch deep round cake tin
3. Put the fruit, butter, sugar and ½ pint of water in a large saucepan. Bring to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes. Allow to cool completely.
4. When cool beat in the flour, mixed spice, bicarbonate of soda, eggs, cherries and walnuts until evenly mixed.
5. Spoon into the prepared tin and level the surface.
6. Cook for 2-2 ½ hours or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.
7. Turn out and cool on rack. Brush the top with honey



Bubble and Squeak

Bubble and Squeak is a great way of using up leftover mash, sprouts and cabbage

Ingredients	
1 Tablespoon	Duck fat, goose fat or butter
4 Rashers	Steaky bacon, chopped
1	Onion, finely chopped
1	Clove of Garlic
400g	Cold leftover mash potato or cold crushed boiled potatoes
	Brussel Sprouts or left over cabbage, shredded

Method

1. Melt the fat or butter in a non-stick pan, allow it to get nice and hot, then add the chopped streaky bacon. As it begins to brown, add the finely sliced onion and the chopped garlic clove
2. Next, add the brussel sprouts or shredded boiled cabbage and let it colour slightly.
3. Add 400g cold mashed potato. Work everything together in the pan and push it down so that the mixture covers the base of the pan.
4. Allow the mixture to catch slightly on the base of the pan before turning it over and doing the same again. It's the bits of potato that catch in the pan that define the term 'bubble and squeak' so be brave and let the mixture colour.
5. Cut into wedges and serve

Christmas word search

S	D	R	A	C	I	Y	X	T	W
T	C	P	C	O	M	G	R	D	R
A	T	V	M	Y	M	E	K	O	E
G	I	F	T	S	E	G	Y	C	A
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	T
S	L	L	E	B	U	E	W	M	H
N	O	E	L	P	E	R	O	E	N
C	A	N	D	L	E	S	N	R	A
H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	S	R	V
F	L	C	A	R	O	L	S	Y	W

BELLS
CAROLS
HOLIDAY
SNOW

CANDLES
CHRISTMAS
MERRY
TREE

CARDS
GIFTS
NOEL
WREATH

Christmas word search

M	Y	S	T	S	N	E	H	H	E	M	U	O	Q	Y
C	I	A	L	D	N	D	Z	P	S	M	P	E	M	T
H	A	S	D	E	N	O	E	L	W	R	E	A	T	H
R	G	A	T	I	I	W	W	O	S	R	F	S	B	M
I	H	F	T	L	L	G	O	D	T	R	T	V	E	X
S	G	G	C	G	E	O	H	U	G	O	L	R	G	Z
T	C	S	I	G	I	T	H	R	C	V	R	S	X	A
M	A	F	L	D	D	J	O	K	S	Y	R	W	H	J
A	R	R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R	S	T	F	I	G
S	O	P	O	V	Z	N	L	O	T	L	D	L	W	A
D	L	A	D	H	G	D	J	T	D	L	Y	R	U	K
I	S	Y	X	X	N	U	X	I	F	E	N	H	A	T
H	G	J	U	A	P	P	C	X	M	B	B	G	D	C
G	V	X	C	K	Z	K	F	P	A	O	I	T	L	T
M	H	B	N	Q	T	H	H	A	Q	R	K	F	P	H

BELLS
CAROLS
HOLIDAY
NOEL
SLEIGH
TREE

CANDLES
CHRISTMAS
MERRY
REINDEER
SNOW
WREATH

CARDS
GIFTS
MISTLETOE
RUDOLPH
STOCKING



Answers to Christmas Alpha quiz

1. 3 Wise Men
2. 12 Days of Christmas
3. 3 Kings of Orient Are
4. December 25 is Christmas Day
5. 1 Partridge in a Pear Tree
6. 5 Gold Rings
7. 24 Windows on an Advent Calendar
8. January 1 is New Year's Day
9. 31 Days in December
10. 1 Fairy on a Christmas Tree
11. January 6 is Epiphany
12. December 26 is Saint Stephens Day
13. 6 Sides to a Snowflake
14. 1 Candle on a Christingle
15. 2 Legs on a Turkey





Answers to Christmas Alphabet

1. The period leading up to Christmas	ADVENT
2. The town in which Jesus was born	BETHLEHEM
3. Songs sung at Christmas	CAROLS
4. The month in which Christmas falls	DECEMBER
5. When the Magi meet Christ	EPIPHANY
6. Popular song of the festive season	FROSTY THE SNOWMAN
7. What we all like receiving at Christmas	GIFTS
8. Plant with prickly leaves and red berries	HOLLY
9. There was no room here for Mary and Joseph	INN
10. The reason for it all	JESUS
11. Another name for Santa Claus	KRIS KRINGLE
12. Put on the tree as a decoration	LIGHTS
13. Where the baby was laid	MANGER
14. The story of Christmas	NATIVITY
15. The fruit used in a Christingle	ORANGE
16. Mexican plant often associated with Christmas	POINSETTIA
17. 3.00pm on Christmas Day	QUEENS SPEECH
18. The reindeer with a shiny nose	RUDOLPH
19. What the Three Kings followed	STAR
20. Also known as lametta	TINSEL
21. Where the presents are found	UNDER THE TREE
22. One of Santa's reindeer	VIXEN
23. A hot mulled cider drink at Christmas	WASSAIL
24. A shortened form of Christmas	XMAS
25. Known as 'Buche de Noel' in France	YULE LOG
26. Often used to mean Jerusalem	ZION



Christmas Carol Answers

1. Away In A Manger
2. It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
3. The First Noel
4. While Sheperds Watched
5. Hark The Herald Angels Sing
6. Joy To The World
7. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
8. O Holy Night
9. O Little Town Of Bethlehem
10. In The Bleak Mid-Winter
11. Deck The Halls
12. Ding Dong Merrily On High
13. The Holly And the Ivy
14. Good King Wenceslas
15. O Come All Ye Faithful
16. Once In Royal David's City
17. I saw Three Ships
18. We Three Kings of Orient Are





Christmas Quiz Answers

1. January 5th
2. 26th December
3. Holiday Inn
4. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer and Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen
5. Robert Burns
6. Australia
7. Cranberry sauce
8. Seven
9. Welsh
10. 364
11. H₂O
12. King George the Fifth (in 1932)
13. Christmas cracker
14. Oliver Cromwell
15. Panettone
16. Mexico
17. Santa Claus is coming to town
18. 6
19. To and From
20. Calf

Did you spot all the differences?





Missing letters answers

1. TURKEY
2. CRANBERRY SAUCE
3. PLUM PUDDING
4. MINCE PIES
5. BRANDY SAUCE
6. CHRISTMAS CAKE
7. MULLED WINE
8. SHERRY
9. ROAST POTATOES
10. BRAZIL NUTS