



# CHRISTMAS AND HIM

PART OF THE CHRISTMAS GAMES THEMED PROGRAMME



## GETTING INTO THE ACTIVITY

Christmas can be full of distractions and lost meaning. If we take away those distractions, what are we left with?

Split the group into two teams. For each team you'll need the letters C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S written onto individual pieces of paper. Don't give these to the teams yet. Instead complete the head to head challenges/games found on the challenge sheet. After a team has completed the challenge give them one of their letters. Do it in a random order so they don't know it spells out Christmas. Each team should finish with all 9 letters.

Once both teams have all their letters, see if they can create a word (Christmas) using the letters. Ask the children what they enjoy most about Christmas. What are they looking forward to most this Christmas?

Now read through the 'Christmas and Him' script on the activity sheet, looking at what is left of Christmas when we take away all of the extras and focus on the real meaning. Finish with a prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to be our saviour.

**Virtual:** A leader should have the letters and show them for all to see.



## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Paper & Pens
- Christmas Challenges Sheet
- Christmas and Him Script



## KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

Maintain social distancing as required. Where shared equipment is used, please ensure a hand hygiene break before and after.

# CHRISTMAS AND HIM CHALLENGES

In order to earn each letter, teams will need to complete the appropriate challenge for each letter. Some challenges are individual and others involve the whole team. After completing the challenge, hand over the appropriate letter to the team. At the end of the challenges, all teams should have all 9 letters.

- T** To earn the letter T, all teams must come up with the names of 8 Christmas films.
- M** To earn the letter M, one person from each team should be nominated to complete a dance off. All dancers must dance for at least 30 seconds. All teams will get the letter M for taking part, but a small prize could also be given to the best dancer.
- I** To earn the letter I, all teams must take part in a game of Christmas charades. One person in each team should act out something to do with Christmas for the other teams to guess. Each team receives the letter I after completing the challenge.
- S** To earn the letter S, one person from each team should be nominated to play. Their job is to hum a Christmas song / carol for the rest of the group to guess. They must hum the song whilst pinching their nose shut. The team receives the letter S after their song / carol has been guessed.
- H** To earn the letter H, all teams must come up with the names of 8 items of food found on a Christmas dinner.
- A** To earn the letter A, one person from each team should be nominated to play. Their job is to pull a funny face in an attempt to make someone else laugh. Once someone has laughed, the challenge is completed and that team can be given the letter A. Allow each team the chance to earn the letter A.
- S** To earn the letter S, one person from each team should be nominated to play. Their job is to do the best Father Christmas impression that they can. Ideally this should involve a loud 'HO HO HO' and rubbing of the belly.
- C** To earn the letter C, someone in each team should tell a joke to make the rest of the group laugh. If it makes people laugh then the team earn the letter. If it doesn't make people laugh then teams can carry on telling jokes until they are successful.
- R** To earn the letter R, the whole group should name 10 characters / animals from the nativity. This is not a head to head challenge, but a whole group challenge. Once 10 characters have been named, all teams should receive the letter R.

Before moving on to the next part of the activity, please make sure all teams have all 9 letters.

# CHRISTMAS AND HIM

Christmas is often an exciting time where there is lots going on. We have lots of family to visit, places to go, events to take part in and much more. Christmas is meant to be a holiday, but sometimes we can feel like we need a holiday after Christmas, because it is that busy!

Lay out your letters on the floor so you spell out the word Christmas. As we talk through the following Christmas items and traditions, remove that letter from the word.

Here are some of the things that keep us busy during Christmas:

**T - Toys & Presents:** One thing lots of people look forward to the most is receiving new toys and presents. What is on your Christmas list this year?

**A - Amazon Shopping:** It's estimated in the UK that we spend nearly £19 billion on Christmas presents. That's a lot of money!! We also spend £1 billion pounds online shopping on Christmas day too, buying the things we didn't receive as presents.

**R - Roast Dinner:** Another big Christmas tradition which people look forward to is their Christmas dinner. What is everyone's favorite part of the Christmas dinner? On average we consume 6000 calories on Christmas Day.

**S - Santa:** He is everywhere during the Christmas period. You'll find him on cards, presents, TV adverts, in shopping centres. It's estimated Santa delivers presents to over 5,500 homes every second on Christmas Eve. How does he do it?!

**S - Snow:** Every year we dream of a white Christmas, but every year we get disappointed. Can anyone think of a Christmas song with the word 'snow' in? What's your favourite thing to do in the snow?

**C - Chocolate:** Chocolate oranges, coins, selection boxes, tubs of sweets—chocolate is a big thing at Christmas. Some people even eat chocolate for breakfast on Christmas morning! What is your favourite Christmas chocolate?

These Christmas traditions are all fun and enjoyable, but sometimes then can actually distract us from the real meaning of Christmas. If we look at the letters we have left after removing the distractions, what are we left with? Yes, that right - HIM! That's what Christmas is all about. Jesus is all that matters. It's not about the presents or the chocolate. It's not about Santa or Christmas dinners. It's about HIM - Jesus. The best unexpected surprise that changed the world, forever. Will you take a moment this Christmas to remember that?