

# Merry Christmas!



This Programme is full of short games and activities on a Christmas theme, linking to the Squirrel Smile Award – I'm Active!

An introductory activity can be used as the Squirrels arrive at the meeting place – colouring or simple puzzles can keep children occupied until all the Drey arrives or use a 'joining-in' style game, such as 'The farmer wants a wife' or 'Duck, duck, goose' or a circle format ball game. Add snack time where necessary!

TIME (mins)	ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT
5	Welcome, Register, Opening Ceremony, Introduction to Programme	
10	<b>GAME: Christmas Post</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Divide the Drey into teams, each with their own 'post box' or if the Drey is small use one 'post box' and play together</li> <li>○ Mark a chalk start line and position the 'post box' on the floor an appropriate distance from it</li> <li>○ A member of the Leadership team could hand out the Christmas cards to be thrown or leave in a pile for each team by the chalk line</li> <li>○ Each Squirrel takes turns tossing a Christmas card (a bit like a Frisbee) into the 'post box'!</li> </ul>	Christmas cards with the backs cut off Chalk Boxes or containers – decorated to look like post boxes, if wished
10	<b>GAME: Christmas Baubles</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Divide the Drey into teams – each team needs a 'Christmas bauble' – a blown up balloon</i></li> <li>○ <i>The aim is to get a 'Christmas bauble' to the other end of the hall and back using only their tummies!</i></li> <li>○ <i>The Squirrels need to work together in pairs to get down and up the hall without the balloon escaping! They might need to move like a crab, going sideways and go slowly and carefully!</i></li> </ul>	Blown up balloons
10	<b>GAME: Jingle Bells</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>A game where the whole Drey has to do their best to be quiet and play by the rules!</i></li> <li>○ <i>The Drey sits in a large circle on the floor</i></li> <li>○ <i>Choose a Squirrel to sit in the centre, blindfolded, with the jingle bells in front of them</i></li> <li>○ <i>A Leader points to a Squirrel who must creep very quietly forward to try and grab the jingle bells. If the Squirrel in the centre hears them coming they point clearly in that direction!</i></li> <li>○ <i>Whether the 'creeper' gets caught or gets the bells, swap the 'creeper' and the Squirrel in the centre to ensure that everyone gets a turn at being both roles!</i></li> </ul>	Set of jingle bells Blindfold



10	<p><b>GAME: Fill the Stocking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Divide the Drey into small teams, team members standing one behind the other at one end of the hall</i></li> <li>○ <i>Give each team a plastic dessert spoon and a container of small wrapped sweets and/or small party bag toys (suitable items can be found in Pound or bargain shops</i></li> <li>○ <i>At the other end of the hall, place a large Christmas stocking or box or basket for each team. Most Pound shops sell Christmas stockings or use a bright coloured basket or a box covered in Christmas paper! If using stockings, perhaps a member of the Leadership team could hold the stocking for each team making it easier for the Squirrels to fill!</i></li> <li>○ <i>In turn, the Squirrels chose an item, place it on their spoon and run down to put it in the stocking or box. Then return to their team, passing the spoon to the next Squirrel</i></li> <li>○ <i>Continue until all the 'gifts' are in the stockings or play for a set time limit!</i></li> <li>○ <i>After the game divide the contents of the Christmas stockings into small party gift bags so that the Squirrels can take the sweets and small toys home as a special Christmas treat at the end of the evening!</i></li> </ul>	<p>Large Christmas stocking/baskets or boxes Selection of small wrapped sweets and/or party bag toys (small enough to fit on a plastic dessert spoon) Plastic dessert spoons Containers for gifts</p> <p>Party gift bags</p>
10	<p><b>GAME: Snowball Race</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Divide the Drey into teams, team members standing one behind the other at one end of the hall</i></li> <li>○ <i>Play this game as an 'egg and spoon race' balancing the polystyrene ball or paper ball on the spoon like a snowball!</i></li> <li>○ <i>Why not add a few obstacles – plastic cones, etc. to make a snow slalom!</i></li> </ul>	<p>Plastic dessert spoons Polystyrene balls or scrunched up balls of white paper Plastic Cones</p>
5	Closing, Home	

