

THEME: Jingle Bells

The theme of this Programme is jingle bells from the favourite winter song of the same name!

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 a circle format ball game.

Add snack time where necessary!

| TIME (mins) | ACTIVITY | EQUIPMENT |
|-------------|--|---|
| 5 | Welcome, Register, Opening Ceremony, Introduction to Programme | |
| 10 | GAME: Musical Mats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scatter the mats or circles around the floor of the hall ○ The Squirrels run or dance around the outside of the mats as the bells ring or the music plays ○ When the music stops the Squirrels each have to find a mat ○ If wished, gradually decrease the number of mats as the game continues | Carpet mats or card circles Set of jingle bells or music and CD player |
| 10 | GAME: Musical Bells <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Choose one child to sit on the floor or on a small chair ○ The Drey sits on the floor in a wide circle around the child ○ Blindfold the Squirrel in the centre and place a set of jingle bells in front of them or under the chair ○ Choose a Squirrel to creep up and try to take the bells away without making a sound ○ If the blindfold Squirrel hears a sound they shout out ‘Ding!’ ○ Ensure everyone has a go at being blindfolded and creeping! | Set of jingle bells Small chair (optional) Blindfold |
| 10 | CRAFT: Jingle Bells Wristband <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Give each child a sparkle stem pipe cleaner and 3 or 4 brightly coloured shiny bells. These items are available from craft shops, craft section of Tesco supermarket or online at www.bakerross.co.uk ○ The Squirrels thread the bells on to the pipe cleaner and position the jingle bells around their wrist ○ The end of the sparkle stem can be twisted together to secure on the child’s wrist ○ A wristband could be made for both wrists of each Squirrel to add extra jingle bells fun! | Per child, ‘sparkle stem’ pipe cleaner, 3 or 4 shiny bells |
| 10 | ACTIVITY: Jingle Bells Use the jingle bells wristbands to make a ‘musical’ accompaniment to these jingle bells themed songs! A Leader can keep the beat with a set of jingle bells! Or use percussion jingle bells from music stores or Early Learning Centre. | Words Set of jingle bells |



| | | |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 10 | <p>GAME: Ding Dong Relay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>A Leader stands in the centre of one end of the hall, holding a set of jingle bells</i> ○ <i>Divide the Drey into small groups, standing in lines at the other end of the hall</i> ○ <i>A Leader calls out run, hop, jump, etc. and each child in turn has to use that action to get to the other end of the hall</i> ○ <i>On reaching the Leader they have to ring the bells!</i> ○ <i>If wished, scores can be kept by giving a point to the team whose member was first to ring the bell!</i> | Set of jingle bells |
| 5 | Closing, Home | |

Jingle Bells

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!
 Oh, what fun it is to ride on a one horse open sleigh!
 Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!
 Oh, what fun it is to ride on a one horse open sleigh!

Dashing through the snow on a one horse open sleigh,
 Over the fields we go, laughing all the way!
 Bells on bob tail ring, making spirits bright,
 Oh, what fun it is to sing a sleighing song tonight!

Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,
 Oh, what fun it is to ride on a one horse open sleigh!

I can ring my little bell

tune of 'London Bridge is falling down'

I can ring my little bell, little bell, little bell
 I can ring my little bell, at Christmastime! *(shake jingle wristbands in front)*

I can ring it very high, very high, very high
 I can ring it very high, at Christmastime! *(shake jingle wristbands up high)*

I can ring it very low, very low, very low,
 I can ring it very low, at Christmastime! *(shake jingle wristbands down low)*

I can ring it all around, all around, all around,
 I can ring it all around, at Christmastime! *(shake jingle wristbands around in circles)*



Make your own set of jingle bells

Equipment:

Cardboard kitchen roll tube

Paint, paintbrush (optional)

Yarn or string

Darning needle

Scissors

Bells (12 - 3 rows of 4 bells)

Method:

- Paint cardboard tube if wished and allow to dry
- Poke needle through tube from one side to other, leaving length of yarn where needle went into cardboard
- Thread 4 jingle bells onto needle and tie the two ends of the yarn together so that the bells sit snugly against the cardboard tube
- Repeat twice more at distances of about 2.5 cms apart
- Shake and enjoy!

