TEACHER NOTES

Teacher Notes

Christmas Activity Booklet for 3rd to 6th class. Read this before you print.

About the booklet

Nine printable pages for 3rd to 6th class. It is free to print for your own class. Nothing needs to be done in order.

What to print

Print one-sided. Use the Low Ink version to save ink. Print the Around the World fact sheets too. Cut and Create works best on card.

Timings and set-up

Independent, 15 to 25 minutes: Code Cracker, Word Search, Christmas Grid Challenge, Christmas Reflection.
Paired, 20 to 30 minutes: Roll and Multiply (two players, two dice, two coloured pencils).
Needs prep, 30 to 45 minutes: Cut and Create (card, scissors, glue; optional wool or string for a hanging loop). Christmas Around the World (fact sheets, a book or a trusted website).
Ongoing: Kindness Countdown can run each day until the holidays.
These are estimates. Please try the activities with your own class and adjust.

Materials checklist

Pencils and colouring pencils. Two dice per pair. Scissors and glue. Card for Cut and Create. Optional: wool or string, tape.

A mixed class

Most pages have an Easier and a Challenge line. Pair children, read instructions aloud and welcome home languages. On the Grid page, younger children may need the first lines done together.

Possible links

Check against your own plans. Word Search and Code Cracker may support spelling and reading. Roll and Multiply may support multiplication facts and chance. The Grid Challenge may support reading positions on a grid. Cut and Create may support shapes and fine motor skills. Around the World may link to Geography. The reflection and kindness pages may link to SPHE. The Gaeilge words may link to Nollaig vocabulary.

Before you print: print one copy and check it. Roll and Multiply gives the player who goes first a small edge, so swap who starts.
Safeguarding: if a child shares something that worries you, follow your school's Child Safeguarding Statement and speak to the Designated Liaison Person.

TEACHER ANSWERS

Answers

For the teacher. Keep this page.

Code Cracker

Happy Christmas to everyone in our class
Nollaig shona duit (Happy Christmas to you)
Your turn: children write their own message. Check it with the code key.

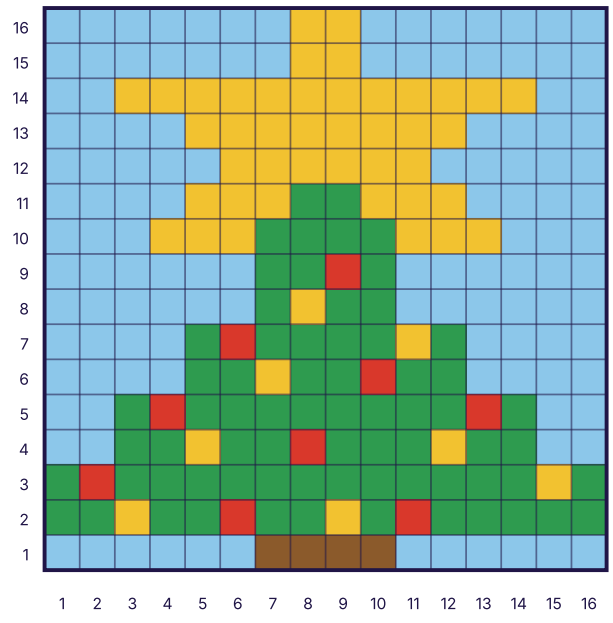
Word Search

Easier: any 10 of the 20 words. Challenge: all 20, then a Christmas sentence using five of them. Words run across, down and diagonally, none backwards. Full key on the right.

Word Search key

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

Christmas Grid Challenge



Grid answer

Colour order: Complete the yellow star, green tree and brown trunk first. Next, colour the red and yellow decorations, replacing the green in those boxes. Finish by colouring the remaining boxes blue.
The picture is a Christmas tree with a yellow star and a brown trunk. Every box ends with exactly one colour. Row 16: 8 to 9 means boxes 8 and 9 in the top row. Rows go across.

TEACHER ANSWERS

More Answers

Maths, craft and sources.

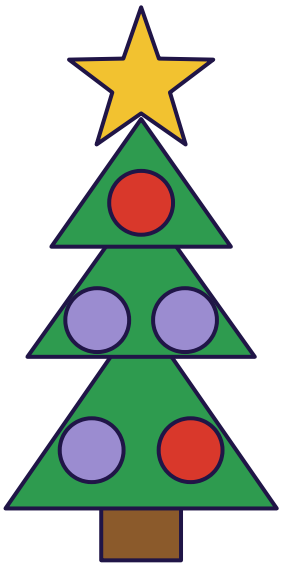
Roll and Multiply: Teacher Notes

Children play in pairs, taking 10 turns each. They roll two dice, multiply the numbers and colour one matching bauble. If no matching bauble remains, they miss that turn. The player with the most coloured baubles after 20 turns wins. Equal scores are a draw.

Maths note: Some answers occur more often than others because there are several ways to make them using two dice. For example, 6 and 12 each have four possible combinations.

Classroom tip: Swap who starts if children play again.

Cut and Create: Finished tree



How the pieces fit

Three green triangles of different sizes (top 225 wide, middle 285, bottom 340) overlap in a band so they hold together when glued on card. The brown trunk goes behind the bottom triangle. The star overlaps the top triangle. All five baubles sit on the green. A hanging loop of wool is optional and needs an adult.

Christmas Around the World: checking sources

Answers vary. Children should use the fact sheets, a book or a trusted website, and write what they found in their own words. Remind them that traditions differ between families. The fact sheets cover Germany, Poland and Australia. The fact sheet gives each country a greeting (Frohe Weihnachten, Wesołych Świąt, Merry Christmas), two foods, traditions and an interesting fact, so pupils can finish the page without the internet. These are examples of traditions, not rules for every family. Ireland: Nollaig Shona.