



# Christmas Around the World



<b>Phase:</b> Year R		<b>Term:</b> Autumn 2	<b>Duration:</b> 3 Weeks
<p><b>Rationale:</b> After the exciting hook, pupils will create a 'Winter Wonderland' within the environment and then begin to follow their own lines of enquiry exploring how Christmas is celebrated around the world (a new country will be introduced every 2-3 days). They will have the opportunity to develop their expressive arts and design skills through making sleighs, baubles, stockings and mangers. A delivery station will be created in the outdoor learning environment for presents to be dropped off; this will also encompass an opportunity to design a map showing the route that will be taken by 'Santa' when delivering the items. Children will continue to develop their physical development whilst participating in PE. To continue to encourage early reading, an interactive reading corner, in the form of a 'reading wonderland', will be incorporated into the indoor learning environment. This will cater for the children's current phonetic knowledge and supports them to consolidate sounds. Writing and fine motor skills will continue to be developed through various activities such as 'Everybody Writes'. The Maths area includes a range of presents that can be weighed and vocabulary will be available to identify 2D/3D shapes. An investigation station is still ongoing to explore the changes in seasons. To encourage speaking, a Christmas village has been created in the small world area and an elves' workshop has been made to enable children to create narratives through role play and developing fine motor skills through cutting. Finally, the children will make a variety of dishes that symbolise Christmas in countries around the world i.e. making 'Lambingtons' (from Australia).</p>			
<p><b>Hook:</b> The children will find a cheeky elf called 'Buddy' in their classroom. He will tell them that he has hidden a letter from Father Christmas and they will need to find it (it has been cut up by the elf). Once pieced together, the children will read aloud the letter which will ask the children to find out a little more about the countries he visits.</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Year R will show their learning to parents/carers and share information on how other countries celebrate Christmas.</p>			
<p><b>Communication and Language:</b> Take part in role play in the 'Elves' workshop' creating their own narratives.  Circle Time - Christmas traditions.  Outcome - Sharing learning and explaining how other countries celebrate Christmas.</p>	<p><b>Physical development: moving and handling:</b> Form recognisable letters using the correct pencil grip.  Develop space awareness, co-ordination and balance during PE lessons.  Create models outside, such as sleighs, using various resources i.e building blocks.</p>	<p><b>Personal, social and emotional development:</b> Become aware of the boundaries set, and of behavioural expectations in the setting.  Begin to be able to negotiate and solve problems without aggression, e.g. when someone has taken their toy.</p>	
<p><b>Literacy:</b> Develop letter formation and understanding of phonics during phonics activities.  Develop fine motor skills and practise writing sounds during 'Everybody Writes' sessions.  'Funky Finger' station i.e. loom bands and decorate gingerbread men/Christmas trees.</p>	<p><b>Mathematics:</b> Order two Christmas presents by weight.  Use mathematical names for 'solid' 3D shapes and 'flat' 2D shapes, and mathematical terms to describe shapes in the form of presents!  Compare amounts using reindeer food and elves.</p>	<p><b>Understanding the world:</b> Look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change linking to Winter.  People and communities and traditions in communities.</p>	
<p><b>Expressive arts and design:</b> Design and create sleighs, baubles, stockings and mangers using a range of materials.  Create Christmas songs/sound effects (reindeer bells) with musical instruments outside using the stage area.  Make delivery maps for Father Christmas.</p>	<p><b>Computing and technology:</b> Learn how to operate simple equipment (Beebots) with increasing accuracy to show Santa's journey on Christmas Eve.</p>	<p><b>Characteristics of effective learning</b> <i>Playing and exploring</i> – children investigate the environment and experience new things by being willing to just 'have a go'. <i>Active learning</i> – children concentrate during 'Everybody Writes' and 'Marvellous Maths' as well as concentrating for a sustained period of time on activities during independent learning time. Teachers will refer to growth mind set and how to overcome challenges. <i>Creativity and thinking critically</i> – children will start to develop their own ideas within their learning.</p>	
<p><b>Trips, opportunities and experiences:</b> A visit from J.Marchant to make Lambingtons.</p>	<p><b>Home Learning:</b> Children are to go on a Winter walk and identify season changes.</p>		