



# CHRISTMAS CROSS-CURRICULAR IDEAS

## Physical development

### Early Learning Goal

Travel around, under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment.

### Talk About

Discuss Christmas in other countries around the world. Ask the children to imagine Christmas in the sunshine.

### Early Learning Goal

Show awareness of space, of themselves and of others.

### Talk About

Encourage the children to express feelings of excitement as they anticipate Christmas.

### Further Ideas

- Encourage the children to mime the actions of the reindeer as they swoop through the clouds, slide along rooftops and gallop over hills.
- Use the home corner for role-play situations about Christmas Eve.
- Help the children to create a model of Father Christmas, the sleigh or a reindeer using a malleable material such as clay or play dough.
- Mime the actions of Father Christmas as he fills a sack with toys, climbs in his sleigh, falls down chimney pots, struggles through windows and tiptoes across quiet rooms.

## FIVE LITTLE ELVES

### What you need

The song 'Five little elves' on page 22; cassette recorder; blank cassette; large open space where the children can move freely and safely.

### What to do

- Set up the cassette recorder and record the children singing the song 'Five little elves'.
- Play back the song and as the children listen, encourage them to use movement and mime to recreate the actions of the elves, for example, dancing around and pretending to climb under and over the workshop shelves, trying to balance and then falling off the shelves!

## CHRISTMAS TWISTER

### What you need

Large sheet of fabric or card (approximately A1 size); thick felt-tipped pens or fabric pens; masking tape; old wooden brick; five self-adhesive labels.

### What to do

- Draw a five by five grid on to the large sheet of card or fabric so that you have 25 squares.
- Help the children to draw 25 shapes on to the grid: five squares, five triangles, five oblongs, five circles and five stars.
- Invite the children to decorate each shape to create 25 simple Christmas pictures, for example, square presents, Santa's triangular hat, oblong Christmas crackers, round puddings and colourful stars.
- Help the children to draw one of these pictures on to each sticky labels. Stick the labels to the brick to make a dice (one side should be left blank).
- Now play your own version of Christmas twister! Ask two children to take turns to throw the dice while another two children stand on the grid. After each roll of the dice, ask the children who rolled the dice to say what picture they have rolled, and let the children on the grid move their hands or feet to the corresponding picture square.

