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## Finding your way around the project pack

This project pack is a cross-curricular collection of creative teaching ideas and resources around the theme of *Christmas* and is most suitable for KS1 children. Our aim is to bring together different resources from Teachit Primary into a cohesive collection, giving more support and structure than we can offer with stand-alone resources. The pack contains teaching activities linked to RE, Literacy and Design and technology. Where appropriate, each subject has links to the new 2014 curriculum and 'A guide to curriculum framework for Religious Education 2013'.

The pack lends itself to being used in different ways. It could form the basis of a whole week's project, or you could dip in and out of it over the course of a term.

The project is broken down into individual subject areas. Each section of the pack includes a set of teaching ideas, followed by accompanying resources. Whenever a teaching idea has a supporting resource we've indicated this and explained how the resource is relevant: for example, as a means to acquire background knowledge for the activity, to facilitate the recording or presentation of the activity or as an extension task related to the activity.

The resources are all available in adaptable formats, making it easy to differentiate the tasks by ability.

We've included links to each separate resource included in this pack so that you can access the resources directly on [www.teachitprimary.co.uk](http://www.teachitprimary.co.uk). We've also included the file number for each original resource – just pop this into Teachit Primary's search engine to find the resource you are looking for. Most of the resources in this pack are Word documents, but we've also included links to PowerPoints and interactive activities. Please log in first in order to access any of these resources on Teachit Primary.

We hope you enjoy using this pack. If you have any questions, please get in touch: email [support@teachitprimary.co.uk](mailto:support@teachitprimary.co.uk) or call us on 01225 788851. Alternatively, you might like to give some feedback for other Teachit Primary members – you can do this by adding a comment on the [Christmas project pack](#) resource page on Teachit Primary (please log in to access this!).

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## Project overview and introduction

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### Bearing gifts we traverse afar...

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With Nativity plays, carol services and Christmas parties all occupying your valuable time, the season of goodwill can often leave you feeling pushed for time, so let us provide you with some ready to go resources to keep your spirits high. If you're looking for something with a little more substance than word searches and colouring sheets, dip into this project pack for some seasonal AND educational resources.

Who can resist the opportunity to read *The Jolly Christmas Postman*? So, deliver some fun activities playing around with characters and settings. It wouldn't be Christmas without a little sparkle, so try designing and making your very own crystal snowflakes – a great link to science too! Not forgetting, what, for many, is the most important aspect of Christmas, the Nativity story! Interview the people present or consider what gifts you would bring.

So there will be no 'Bah humbugs' just plenty of seasonal cheer!

### Kick things off with an event!

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No time for a big bash? Take an hour out to watch a festive movie – *Polar Express* and *The Snowman* are a couple of well-loved favourites. Then get the children to make trailers or posters to promote them. I-movies are great for this – really quick and easy to use.

### Web links

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It's always hard to keep things going right up till Christmas, with tired and excited children creating quite a challenge. Here are a few of the many festively themed interactive games to help keep your class on track.

The [Hwb Wales](#) has some simple sequencing and comparisons activities linked to the Nativity – easy to use, so perfect for early learners.

Mahjong is a Chinese matching game similar to solitaire, which [Kidsheart](#) have created into a Christmassy themed game. Some tiles contain seasonal facts too! Warning – this game is addictive – but great for thinking skills.

An old favourite is, of course, [Northpole.com](#), which is jam-packed with activities such as the Elf Pal Academy but watch out for Americanisms.

## Teachers' notes:

The key to this activity is to find a way of attaching recycled materials to the wreath. There are several different ways of doing this:

- For materials that have a flat area, try cutting a wreath shape from thick cardboard and simply stick materials onto it. A hot glue gun might work better than PVA or glue-sticks but this will require a greater degree of adult supervision.
- For thin materials like plastic bags or paper shapes, try poking a length of modelling wire, or even a metal coat-hanger through each piece and then folding the wire to create a circular shape.





To access these resources please log in to the [Teachit Primary website](http://www.teachitprimary.co.uk) and type **19782** into the search bar.

### Recycled Christmas wreaths

A company in America ran a competition for its workers to make Christmas wreaths out of recycled materials.


Take a look at the Christmas wreaths on the next slides.

All of them have been made out of materials that would otherwise have been thrown away.

Can you identify what they were made from?



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What do you think it's made from? Click for the answer!

Leaflets and pamphlets

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What do you think it's made from? Click for the answer!

Bamboo sticks and beads

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What do you think it's made from? Click for the answer!

Magazine pages

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What do you think it's made from? Click for the answer!

Corrugated cardboard and cardboard tubes

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What do you think it's made from? Click for the answer!

Plastic bags

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What do you think it's made from? Click for the answer!

Magazine cuttings

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What do you think it's made from? Click for the answer!

Newspaper clippings and corrugated cardboard

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### Over to you!

- Your task is to make use of discarded materials to create your own recycled Christmas wreath.
- Before you begin, decide on a design or theme for your wreath. Choose your materials carefully – don't waste any!
- Starting off can be tricky – ask your teacher for suggestions for how to attach objects to your wreath.



Have fun!

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Every year Father Christmas gets millions of letters from children asking for gifts. Make your letter stand out from the rest by following these top tips.

### Top tips:

- Begin by introducing yourself – tell him something interesting about you that you’ve done over the last year, remember he knows all the boys and girls.
- Ask about what’s he’s been up to – it’s always nice when people show an interest in you.
- Tell him what you’ve been doing that is ‘good’ – real examples will add weight to your letter.
- List the things that you would like to receive – try to have a balance between things that are free and those which cost money.
- Think about others; ask for something for a family member or friend that you think they would love.
- Remember that, basically, this is a persuasive letter so use all those lovely persuasive phrases and techniques you know about.
- Oh and remember to send it to the correct address:



Father Christmas  
 Santa’s Grotto  
 Reindeerland  
 SAN TA1

Name: ..... Date: .....

What have I done that is interesting this year?



Question for Father Christmas:

Examples of things I have done that are 'good':

- 
- 
- 
- 

List of things I would like:

What will I ask for Santa to get for someone else and who will that be?

Persuasive phrase I will try to use:



Imagine you are a news reporter who has been sent to interview the people who were a key part of the Christmas story. How amazing would that be! Firstly, consider what you would ask each of them. Then think about how each of them would reply.



Who was there?	What would you ask them?	How would they reply?
<p data-bbox="228 521 400 562"><b>The Angels</b></p> 		
<p data-bbox="201 846 427 887"><b>The Shepherds</b></p> 		
<p data-bbox="188 1149 437 1189"><b>The Three Kings</b></p> 		
<p data-bbox="177 1462 448 1503"><b>Mary and Joseph</b></p> 		
<p data-bbox="177 1776 448 1850"><b>Who else would you like to interview?</b></p>		