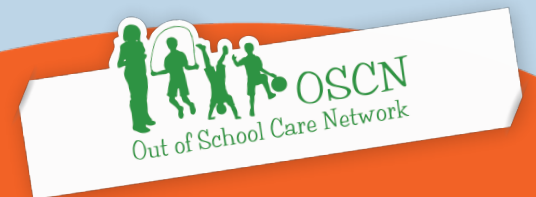




The Best Of Christmas

Christmas themed programming

As Christmas draws near, let's celebrate the joy and magic of the season. Inside you'll find everything you need and more to run a holly jolly out of school care programme.



INTRO

As twinkling lights shine and festive cheer fills the air, it's time to spark creativity and joy. This resource gives you the tools to run a Christmas-themed programme.

HOW TO GET STARTED

In the rest of this resource you will find crafts, games and fillers; suggestions to bring a Christmas theme to life and links to all the resources you need.



DAILY SCHEDULE

The schedule is a vital part of any programme. Use the link to the right to download an excel sheet for a five-day schedule that can be edited/adjusted to suit your needs, such as a later start time etc.

We encourage you to use 'flexi-cruise' mode: if the children are enjoying an activity then let it run longer!

Schedule link [here](#)

Best of Christmas			
Day 1			
Time	Activity	Notes	Link
8:30 - 9:00am	Free time activities	Free time activities can include colouring pages, wordfinds, small games etc. Link for printables	Link Here
9:00 - 9:30am	Roll call / Freetime Activities		
9:30 - 10:00am	Christmas Word Game	Link for instructions	Link Here
10:00 - 10:30am	Morning Tea		
10:30 - 11:00am	Free time activities (while setting up for craft)	Free time activities can include colouring pages, wordfinds, small games etc. Link for printables	Link Here
11:00 - 11:30am	Beaded Stars	Link for instructions	Link Here
11:30am - Noon			
Noon - 12:30pm	Reindeer Run	(Red Light Green Light) but caller shouts "Rudolf Run" to go, "Freeze!" to stop. Link for instructions	Link Here
12:30 - 1:00pm	Lunch		
1:00 - 1:30pm	Free time activities / playground time	Free time activities can include colouring pages, wordfinds, small games etc. Link for printables	Link Here
1:30 - 2:00pm	Make A Reindeer Game Making	Link for instructions.	Link Here
2:00 - 2:30pm	Make A Reindeer Game Playing	Time to play...make it a tournament, winners play winners until one ultimate winner.	Link Here
2:30 - 3:00pm	Elf Statues	(Musical Statues / Statues) Link for instructions	Link Here
3:00 - 3:30pm	Afternoon tea		
3:30 - 4:00pm	North Pole Trail	(Guided Obstacle Course) Blindfolded kids navigate the 'north pole' obstacles while guided. Link for instructions	Link Here
4:00 - 4:30pm	Grinch Says	(Simon Says) Link for instructions	Link Here
4:30 - 5:00pm	Free time activities	Free time activities can include colouring pages, wordfinds, small games etc. Link for printables	Link Here
5:00 - 5:30pm			
5:30 - 6:00pm			
Notes			

CUSTOMISABLE PLANNER

Spread the word! The planner provides a format to advertise your programme

Often programmes have their own templates, or you can use this link to an editable PowerPoint planner. We have set up a whole week theme. If you prefer just a themed day, then mix it up how you like.

Planner link [here](#)

Dec 2025 Programme

Monday
BEADED STARS
Create the scene with our beaded star decorations

Tuesday
MAKE A RENDER GAME
Game time or gift time! Make your very own game

Wednesday
HAPPY JAX
Make yourself a cute gift to give this Christmas

Thursday
CHRISTMAS BARK
Time for a treat crunchy chocolate deliciousness!

Friday
SWIMWORLD TRIP
Let's head off and enjoy a swim and Christmas picnic

Monday
MAIL A HUG
Time to make a heartwarming Christmas gift - send a hug

Tuesday
XMAS CHARACTER CARDS
Create your own festive character and turn them into cards

Wednesday
STAMPED WRAP
Design your own festive wrapping paper with Christmas stamps

Thursday
BEADED TREE CARDS
Create beautiful Christmas cards with beaded trees

Friday
MOVIES TRIP
Time to go see the newest Christmas movie

Costs: \$45 per day (additional \$20 in trip days).
Venue: Beachlands Intermediate School, 23 Crest Road, Beachlands.

Hours: Available hours 8:30 - 5:30pm
To book or for more information visit www.fun4kids.co.nz

DECORATING



BEADED STARS

Thread beads on to wire and then bend to make a star

[Instructions found here](#)



CLEAR BAUBLES

Fill clear baubles with glitter, paint, or tiny treasures

[Instructions found here](#)



DRIFTWOOD TREES

Drill stack and arrange pieces of driftwood into a custom tree

[Instructions found here](#)



ICE BLOCK ADVENT

Ice block sticks hung from a stock to count down the days till Christmas

[Instructions found here](#)



MINI PEG SCENES

Create tiny festive worlds with pegs, trees, and imagination

[Instructions found here](#)



ORIGAMI DECO

Fold colourful shapes into fun decorations to hang and display

[Instructions found here](#)



BAKING



CHRISTMAS BARK

Coat crackers with melted chocolate and festive sprinkles

[Instructions found here](#)



MARBLED BISCUITS

Cook your favorite biscuits and then swirl and dip to decorate

[Instructions found here](#)



MELTING SNOWMAN

Top a biscuit with icing, marshmallows and sweets to make a melting snowman

[Instructions found here](#)



PASTRY STARS

Cut pastry into stars, bake, and add fruit on top... yummy

[Instructions found here](#)



PRETZEL TREES

Cover pretzels in a drizzle of white chocolate to create a delicious tree to eat

[Instructions found here](#)



SANTA HAT BROWNIE

Place strawberries and cream on brownies to make cute Santa hats

[Instructions found here](#)



GIFTING



DRIFTWOOD PHOTO HOLDER

Wrap wire around driftwood to make a gift you can slot photos into

[Instructions found here](#)



HAPPY JAR

Fill a jar with notes, memories, or messages and gift it to someone special

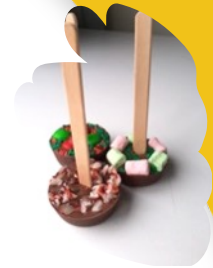
[Instructions found here](#)



HOT CHOCOLATE STICK

Dip a stick in chocolate and sprinkles to gift a stir-in hot chocolate treat

[Instructions found here](#)



MAIL A HUG

Trace, cut, and decorate paper arms to gift a hug from afar

[Instructions found here](#)



MAKE A REINDEER GAME

Create a simple reindeer game to gift for playful holiday fun

[Instructions found here](#)



SCRATCH CARDS

Make a card with a hidden message to gift a scratch-off surprise

[Instructions found here](#)



WRAPPING /CARDS



BEADED TREE CARD

Take a card, add a cutout of a tree and decorate with some beaded threads

[Instructions found here](#)



CHRISTMAS CHARACTER CARDS

Take Santa and his elf and turn them into a cute card

[Instructions found here](#)



CHRISTMAS DELIVERY CARDS

A simple black card with googly eyes a white marker antlers and snow

[Instructions found here](#)



STAMPED WRAP

Take paper, stamp a design and voila you have wrapping paper

[Instructions found here](#)



WASHI TAPE TREE WRAP

Decorate your simple wrapping paper with a washi tape tree

[Instructions found here](#)



WORD FIND WRAP

Print a custom wordfind onto paper and highlight 'Merry Christmas'

[Instructions found here](#)





GAMES

JINGLE ALL THE WAY

It only takes a little imagination to make a game Christmassy

Ball games – call the balls gifts or baubles.

Chairs or equipment – these could become Santa's sleigh.

In the same way, you can link classic games into any theme. Follow the clickable links for game instructions

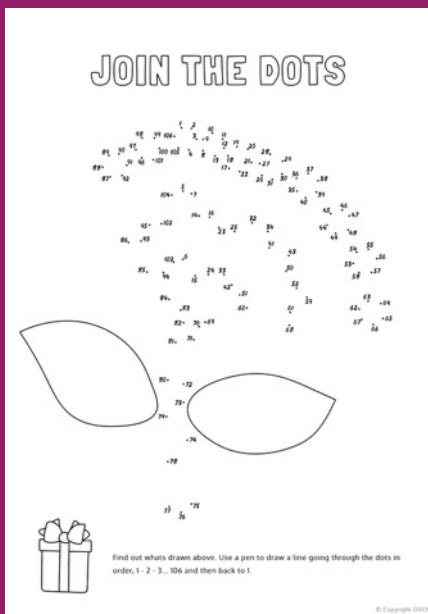
- Reindeer Run ([red light, green light](#))
- Elf Statues ([musical statues](#))
- North Pole Trail ([guided obstacle course](#))
- Grinch Says ([Simon says](#))
- Build-a-Snowman ([build a character](#))
- Christmas Corners ([four corners](#))
- Elf in the Workshop ([sardines](#))
- Decorating Reflex ([high 5 reaction reflex](#))
- Tinsel Tag ([Octopus](#))
- Don't drop the bauble ([hot potato](#))
- Collect the gifts ([rob the nest](#))
- Candy Cane Toss ([pool noodle javelin](#))
- Ornament & Spoon Race ([egg and spoon race](#))
- Candy Cane Grab ([chopstick race](#))
- Santas Coming ([Midnight](#))
- Elf, Elf, Santa ([duck, duck, goose](#))
- Musical Sleighs ([musical chairs](#))
- We're Going Caroling ([we're going](#))

Check out the schedule for more...

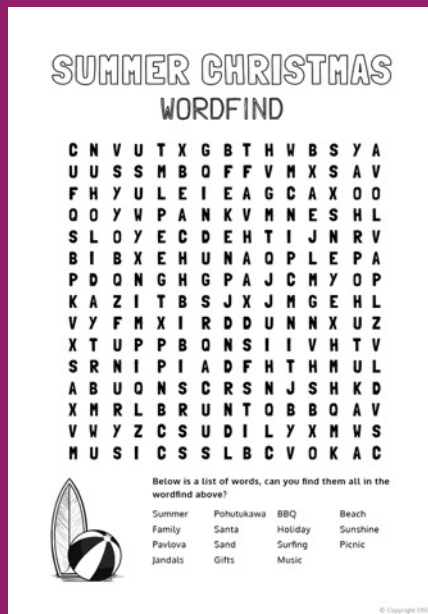


Printable activities are handy time fillers that can also link to a theme. There are many online resources but [here](#) are some to get you started. Clickable links below

Join the dots



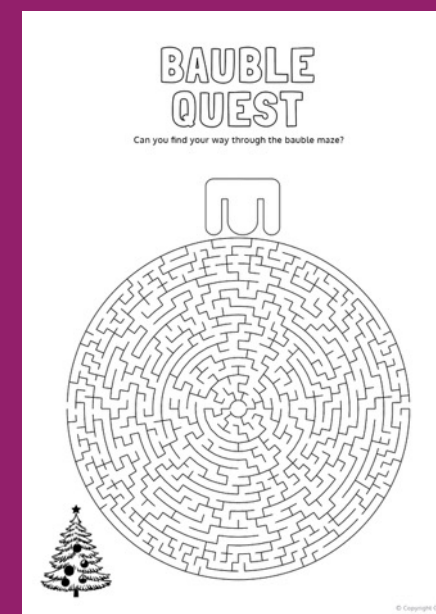
Wordfinds



Colouring in



Mazes



PRINTABLES

A BIT EXTRA

TRIP IDEAS



Christmas in NZ means summer so its the ideal time to discover unique playgrounds, enjoy refreshing outdoor pools. Another idea is to do a giftable trip such as a ceramic painting or offsite craft workshop.

STAFF INPUT



Get staff buy-in by encouraging a bit extra from them. Could they come dressed as an Elf or Reindeer one day? Or organise a Christmas quiz or help the kids to build their own South Pole workshop out of programme hut-making stuff.

ADDED EXTRAS



Christmas Décor: Add some crafted Christmas elements to your space. Simple coloured in baubles, a tree or any of the craft decorations in the schedule.