Christmas games for kids

Peabody · checked 2026-10-29

Play Santa's Workshop free, one tap from here: dash across Snowbury's rooftops in Santa's Dash, tube down the North Pole's snowy chutes and more. For the family room and a class party, the games below need little or nothing: Ornament Hunt, Snowball Toss, Reindeer Relay, Christmas Charades and Gift Guess, each with ages and supplies.

Christmas games for kids at a glance

- Game: Ornament Hunt · Ages: 3 and up · Where: Indoors · You need: Unbreakable ornaments or paper ones
- Game: Wrap the Present · Ages: 6 and up · Where: At a table · You need: A box, paper, tape, a timer
- Game: Snowball Toss · Ages: 3 and up · Where: Indoors · You need: Rolled-up white socks, a laundry basket
- Game: Santa Hat Pass · Ages: 4 and up · Where: In a circle · You need: A red hat, music
- Game: Christmas Charades · Ages: 6 and up · Where: Indoors · You need: Slips of paper
- Game: Gift Guess · Ages: 5 and up · Where: At a table · You need: A paper bag, small household things
- Game: Cookie Counting · Ages: 4 and up · Where: In the kitchen · You need: Cookies or paper circles
- Game: Light Up the Tree · Ages: 5 and up · Where: Indoors · You need: A tree drawn on paper, stickers or crayons
- Game: Reindeer Relay · Ages: 5 and up · Where: A hallway or yard · You need: Two paper antlers or headbands
- Game: Words in CHRISTMAS · Ages: 7 and up · Where: At a table · You need: Paper, a pencil
- Game: Winter Word Scramble · Ages: 6 and up · Where: At a table · You need: The list on this page
- Game: Silent Night Freeze · Ages: 3 and up · Where: Indoors · You need: Quiet music
- Game: Pass the Parcel, Slow Version · Ages: 3 and up · Where: In a circle · You need: A small gift, lots of newspaper, music
- Game: Guess the Carol · Ages: 6 and up · Where: Indoors · You need: Nothing
- Game: Stocking Feel-and-Guess · Ages: 4 and up · Where: At a table · You need: A long sock, five household things
- Game: Snowflake Fold-and-Cut Race · Ages: 6 and up · Where: At a table · You need: Squares of paper, round-ended scissors

- Game: Reindeer, Reindeer, Snowman · Ages: 3 and up · Where: In a circle · You need: Nothing
- Game: The Present Nobody Can Open · Ages: 7 and up · Where: At a table · You need: A wrapped box, oven gloves, a die

Christmas games to play at home and at a class party

These need little or nothing you don't already have around the holidays. Each one lists ages and supplies. Move the breakables first, and keep small things like ornament hooks and candy away from anyone under 3.

Ornament Hunt

3 and up · Indoors · You need: unbreakable ornaments or paper ones

While one child waits in the next room, a grown-up hides five ornaments at child height. The child comes back and hunts. Say "warmer" and "colder" as they search. Swap who hides.

Wrap the Present

6 and up · At a table · You need: a box, paper, tape, a timer

Teams race to wrap a small box neatly in two minutes. The neatest corners win, not the fastest hands. For little ones, a grown-up holds the tape.

Snowball Toss

3 and up · Indoors · You need: rolled-up white socks, a laundry basket

Stand behind a line and toss sock snowballs into the basket. Move the line back one step each time everyone has scored. Count the score in twos or fives.

Santa Hat Pass

4 and up · In a circle · You need: a red hat, music

Pass the hat round the circle while music plays. When it stops, whoever wears the hat names a winter word, then does a silly dance.

Christmas Charades

6 and up · Indoors · You need: slips of paper

Write things to act out: hanging a stocking, rolling a snowman, shaking a present, sipping cocoa, stringing lights, a reindeer sneezing. No talking. Draw a picture on the slip for a child who can't read yet.

Gift Guess

5 and up · At a table · You need: a paper bag, small household things

Put something in the bag. A child feels it and says what it is like (smooth, bumpy, heavy), and everyone guesses. Take turns being the feeler.

Cookie Counting

4 and up · In the kitchen · You need: cookies or paper circles

Decorate a tray of cookies with exactly the numbers on a card: three red dots, two stripes. For older children, make the card a sum: 4 + 3 sprinkles.

Light Up the Tree

5 and up · Indoors · You need: a tree drawn on paper, stickers or crayons

Roll a die and put that many colored lights on the tree. First tree with twenty lights wins. Count aloud in tens and ones as you go.

Reindeer Relay

5 and up · A hallway or yard · You need: two paper antlers or headbands

Two teams. Each player puts on the antlers, runs to the far wall, touches it and runs back to pass them on. Hop, gallop or tiptoe to change it up.

Words in CHRISTMAS

7 and up · At a table · You need: paper, a pencil

Write CHRISTMAS at the top of a page. In five minutes, how many words can you make from its letters, using each letter only as many times as it appears? A three-letter word is 1 point, four letters 2, five or more 3. Some to find: mist, chair, stairs, shirt, charts, march, smart.

Winter Word Scramble

6 and up · At a table · You need: the list on this page

Unscramble the words in the list under these games. Read them aloud for a child who is still learning to read and let them say the answer.

Silent Night Freeze

3 and up · Indoors · You need: quiet music

Dance slowly to quiet music like snowflakes. When the music stops, freeze like a statue. Whoever wobbles melts into a puddle on the floor.

Pass the Parcel, Slow Version

3 and up · In a circle · You need: a small gift, lots of newspaper, music

Wrap something small in eight layers, with a joke tucked into each layer. Pass it round while music plays; whoever holds it when the music stops takes off one layer and reads the joke out. Eight layers means eight children get a turn before anyone wins.

Guess the Carol

6 and up · Indoors · You need: nothing

Hum a song with your mouth closed while everyone guesses. One point for the guesser, one for the hummer if nobody gets it in thirty seconds. Younger children can clap the rhythm instead of humming.

Stocking Feel-and-Guess

4 and up · At a table · You need: a long sock, five household things

Put five things in a sock without anyone seeing: a spoon, a pine cone, a ball of wool. Each player reaches in, feels one and whispers a guess to the grown-up. Reveal them all at the end and see who had the most right.

Snowflake Fold-and-Cut Race

6 and up · At a table · You need: squares of paper, round-ended scissors

Everyone gets three squares and four minutes. Fold in half, then in thirds, then in half again, and cut shapes into the folded edges. The prize is for the one with the most holes that still holds together when you open it.

Reindeer, Reindeer, Snowman

3 and up · In a circle · You need: nothing

The old duck-duck-goose game with winter names. Walk round the outside tapping heads and saying reindeer, reindeer, reindeer, then snowman. The snowman jumps up and chases you to the empty space.

The Present Nobody Can Open

7 and up · At a table · You need: a wrapped box, oven gloves, a die

Wrap a small prize in several layers of paper and tape. Players take turns rolling a die; whoever rolls a six puts on oven gloves and tries to unwrap it while the others keep rolling. The gloves are the whole joke, and the box usually survives four or five people.

Winter word scramble

- Scrambled: NSWO · Answer: SNOW
- Scrambled: DESL · Answer: SLED
- Scrambled: RAFCS · Answer: SCARF
- Scrambled: NTETIM · Answer: MITTEN
- Scrambled: ECI · Answer: ICE
- Scrambled: TOBOS · Answer: BOOTS
- Scrambled: CAOCO · Answer: COCOA
- Scrambled: KIOOCE · Answer: COOKIE
- Scrambled: DERENIER · Answer: REINDEER
- Scrambled: WSNOMAN · Answer: SNOWMAN
- Scrambled: WFLANOKES · Answer: SNOWFLAKE
- Scrambled: NUPGENI · Answer: PENGUIN

Cover the answer column, or fold the printout, before you hand it over.

Free Christmas games online

For the car ride, the airport or the hour before the party. These are the games in Santa's Workshop, and each link opens that Christmas game. Every win earns candy canes.

- Game: Build the Workshop · What you do: Spend candy canes on Santa's toy factory and candy factory, and hire the elves.
- Game: Santa's Dash · What you do: Run and jump across Snowbury's snowy rooftops, the toy factory and the candy cane forest.
- Game: Snow Tube Run · What you do: Race a snow tube down the twisting chutes at the North Pole.
- Game: Snow Blocks · What you do: Build a snowy village block by block with Christmas blocks.
- Game: Jingle Pranks · What you do: Play gentle pranks on Santa and Head Elf Whistlewick.
- Game: Ice Caves · What you do: Explore the glittering ice caves and find the hidden treasure.
- Game: Bake Challenge · What you do: Mix, bake and decorate Christmas cookies.

Christmas math at home

- Count the presents. Seven under the tree and three more arrive: how many? If each person gets two, how many people is that?
- Bake and share. A tray holds 12 cookies. How many trays for 30 cookies? How many each if 6 children share 24?
- String the lights. Each strand is 6 feet and the window is 15 feet wide. How many

strands? (Three.)
• Count down. It is the 10th of December. How many sleeps until the 25th? (Fifteen.)

More for the holidays

• Christmas activities for kids: every Christmas page here in one place, and things to do this month.
• Christmas crafts for kids: 25 easy crafts from household things, by age and time.
• Christmas stories for kids to read together, at every reading level.
• Christmas coloring pages: Santa, a reindeer, a gingerbread house and more, to color online or print as a little book.
• The Activity Book: word finds, mazes and puzzles, printable with answers.

Questions parents ask

What Christmas games can toddlers and preschoolers play?

Ornament Hunt with big paper ornaments, Snowball Toss with soft socks, Santa Hat Pass and Silent Night Freeze. Keep small things like ornament hooks, candy and batteries away from anyone under 3.

What Christmas games work for a classroom party?

Reindeer Relay, Christmas Charades with pictures for the non-readers, Words in CHRISTMAS in pairs, and Wrap the Present for teams of four. None needs preparation beyond a few supplies.

Does Peabody have a Christmas game?

Yes: Santa's Workshop, free to play with one tap at the top of this page, with Santa's Dash, Snow Tube Run, Snow Blocks, Jingle Pranks, Ice Caves, Bake Challenge and Build the Workshop to play now and more on the way. The games to play at home are written out on this page.

Are Peabody's online games free?

Yes. They are free through the end of 2027, with no ads and no sign-up to start playing.

Free at peabody.kids/holidays/christmas/games