

Games



Play large group games.
(25 minutes)

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Paper plates, one per child
- Pens, one per child

LARGE GROUP GAME: SHEPHERD TAG

Materials: None

Object of game: Avoid being tagged by the shepherd/herd

How to play: Choose one student to be the shepherd and stand in the middle of the playing area. The rest of the students should line up on opposite sides of the playing area behind a designated boundary (about half the students on each side). When the shepherd calls the sheep by shouting "Come sheep!" all the students on both sides must run to the opposite side. Any players who are tagged by the shepherd become part of the herd and will help the shepherd tag players in the next round. The last student or small group of students remaining are the winners.

LARGE GROUP GAME: DRAW-ON-YOUR-HEAD NATIVITY

Materials: Paper plates and pens

Object of game: Follow the guided drawing without looking

How to play: Give each student a pen and paper plate. Instruct them to put the paper plate on top of their head and use the pen to draw according to your instructions. Tell them that it is a competition to see who can follow the directions to make the most accurate drawing. No taking the paper plate down to look at the drawing until the leader instructs! The leader should read the instructions slowly and repeat them, allowing students time in between each one to draw.

Instructions:

1. Draw walls and a roof for a table.
2. Draw some hay on the ground.
3. Draw baby Jesus inside the stable.
4. Draw a star up in the sky.
5. Draw some farm animals.
6. Draw some shepherds keeping watch over their sheep in a field nearby.

Let students take the plates off their heads and look at their drawings! Now, have them listen to the following instructions for scoring points, and have them keep a tally mark on the plate to see what their score is. Leaders should help younger students figure out their scores.

1 point if the walls and roof of your stable are touching each other

1 point if the hay is below the roof of the stable

2 points if baby Jesus is inside the stable.

2 points if the star is above the roof of the stable (only 1 point if it is touching the roof, 0 if it is below the roof)

2 points if you drew more than one farm animal

1 point for every shepherd drawn that is not in or touching the stable

1 point for every sheep drawn

LARGE GROUP GAME: SANTA SAYS

Materials: None

Object of game: Only follow the commands that start with "Santa says."

How to play: A Christmas-themed version of "Simon Says". The leader gives commands starting with "Santa says..." (e.g., "Santa says touch your toes.").

Kids only follow the commands that start with "Santa says".

If you have enough kids, consider splitting them into small groups.