

Games



Play large group games.
(25 minutes)

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Jingle bells, 1 per child
- 10 cups numbered 1-10 on the inside
- Painter's tape
- Green long-sleeve shirt and pants, or a green dress
- (Optional) Green felt or fabric for additional embellishments
- Safety pins or fabric glue
- Tinsel garlands
- Mini Christmas ornaments (plastic or felt for safety)
- Star or angel tree topper (for a hat or headband)
- (Optional) Battery-operated string lights
- Ribbon or bows
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks (adult use only)
- (Optional) Fabric marker
- Device to play music
- Chairs

LARGE GROUP GAME: JINGLE BELL TOSS

Materials: Jingle bells (enough for each student to have one), set of ten cups with a value written inside (1-10), painter's tape

Object of game: Get your jingle bell in the highest-value cup

How to play: Set up a set of paper cups with values written inside of them for each group. The values can be as simple as single-digit numbers (for younger students) or as complex as mixed fractions (for those wanting a challenge!).

Place a piece of painter's tape at a specific distance from each set of cups. Split your class up into small groups. Give each student in each group a jingle bell to play with. Have students take turns throwing their jingle bell into a cup.

Once everyone has had a turn, add up the numbers that have a jingle bell inside. The group with the highest total is the winner!

LARGE GROUP GAME: HUMAN CHRISTMAS TREE

Materials: Green long-sleeve shirt and pants or a green dress, green felt or fabric (optional), safety pins or fabric glue, tinsel garlands, mini Christmas ornaments (plastic or felt for safety), star or angel tree topper (for a hat or headband), battery-operated string lights (optional), ribbon or bows, scissors, hot glue gun and glue sticks (adult use only), fabric marker (optional)

Object of game: Decorate your "tree" within the time limit

How to play: Divide players into teams. Each team should have one designated "tree" (the person who will be dressed up). Create 2 or more teams (each team can have 2-4 players).

Lay out all the materials in a central area where each team can access them easily. Each team must dress their designated "tree" using the provided materials within the time limit.

Emphasize safety: No sharp objects, heavy ornaments, or items that could cause discomfort.

Mention that creativity and a festive spirit will be judged (if you have judges).

Game Start: Set a timer for 10-15 minutes, depending on the age of the participants and the number of decorations.

Play festive music to set the mood (optional). Teams work together to dress their "tree" using the materials provided. They can wrap tinsel, attach ornaments, and add any other decorations to make their "tree" look festive. Ensure that all teams use safety pins, fabric glue, or hot glue under adult supervision to attach decorations securely.

If using battery-operated string lights, teams should carefully weave the lights through the decorations, ensuring the battery pack is easily accessible and secure. Add a star or angel tree topper to the head of the “tree”.

Once the time is up, each team presents their “tree” to the judges or audience. Judges (or the audience) can evaluate based on creativity, festive appearance, and overall execution.

Give out awards for various categories such as “Most Creative Tree”, “Best Use of Materials”, “Most Festive Tree”, etc. Small prizes or certificates can be given to the winning teams.

LARGE GROUP GAME: CHRISTMAS MUSICAL CHAIRS

Materials: Device to play music, chairs

Object of game: Sit on a chair when the music stops

How to play: Begin playing the music, and instruct the children to walk in a circle around the chairs. Stop the music suddenly after a short period (random intervals work best). When the music stops, each player must quickly find a chair to sit on.

The player left standing without a chair is out of the game. Remove one chair from the circle.

Restart the music and continue the game. Each time the music stops, remove one chair and eliminate one player. Keep playing until only one chair and two players remain. The player who sits on the last chair when the music stops is the winner.

Remind the children to walk and not run to avoid any accidents. Emphasize that the game is about having fun rather than just winning, to keep the atmosphere light and enjoyable.

Variation: For a festive twist, you can use holiday music or decorate the chairs with holiday-themed decorations.