



PARTY

Like a Fezziwig

Use their
tips and tricks
to make your
Christmas the
best ever!



Marvelous Mince Pies

The Victorians had the best Christmas snacks! Make sure everyone gets one of these homemade mince pies.

Ingredients

For the filling:

- 1 large jar mincemeat (about 22 oz.)
- 2 clementines, segmented and diced
- 1 apple, grated
- Zest of one lemon

For the pastry:

- 2½ cups plain flour
- 1¼ cups unsalted butter, softened
- ¾ cup white sugar
- 1 large egg

Confectioners' sugar for topping

Makes 16 mince pies.



Equipment: muffin tin (you may need more than one), mixing bowls, wooden spoon, plastic wrap, rolling pin, round pastry cutter, star-shaped pastry cutter

1. Ask a grown-up to preheat the oven to 400°F and help you butter the muffin tin.
2. Place the flour and butter in a bowl and mix together, using your hands, to a crumb consistency.
3. Add the sugar and the egg, and mix together with the wooden spoon.
4. Pour out onto a lightly floured surface and fold until the pastry comes together.
5. Wrap the pastry in plastic wrap and chill it in the fridge for 10 minutes.
6. Scoop the mincemeat into a bowl and add the clementines, apple, and lemon zest.
7. Roll out the pastry to ⅛ inches.
8. Using a round cutter (about 4 inches), cut out 16 bases and place them into the muffin tin.
9. Put 1½ tablespoons of mincemeat mixture into each.
10. Re-roll out the pastry and cut stars out. Press them on top to seal.
11. Bake mince pies for 15–20 minutes until golden brown.
12. Leave to cool off slightly before releasing them from the muffin tin and dusting with confectioners' sugar.
13. Enjoy!

Make sure you ask an adult to help you.



Parlor Games

No holiday is complete without some games—here are some that were actually played in the nineteenth century!

You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile

Pick one person to be “it.” That person is the only one in the group who is allowed to smile. They can do anything they want to try and get someone to smile (as long as it does not involve physical contact). If they make someone else smile, that person becomes “it.” The last person to smile out of the group is declared the winner.

Pass the Slipper

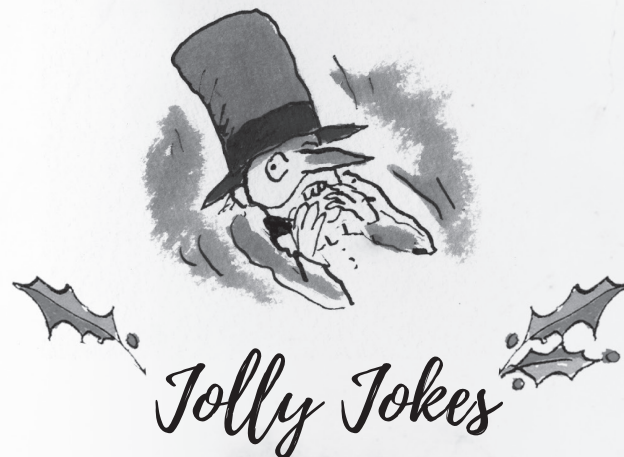
In Victorian times a shoe would have been used for this game, but any small item may be used.

Pick a player who stands in the center of a circle formed by the other players. The player in the middle must close their eyes, and as they do so, the shoe is passed from player to player behind their back. When the person in the middle opens their eyes, the passing of the shoe immediately stops, and the player must guess who holds the shoe. If they are correct, they change places. Otherwise, the player closes their eyes again and play continues.

Kim's Game

This is a simple memory game, named after Rudyard Kipling's novel *Kim*.

A tray is prepared containing a selection of small articles, preferably unrelated items. Everyone is given a minute to look at the tray and try to remember the contents. The tray is covered or removed, and everyone has to try to make a list of the objects. The person who remembers the most items wins.



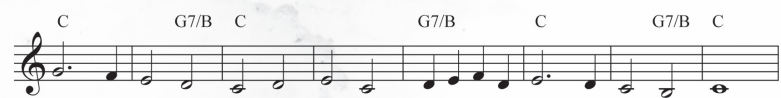
- Q: Why is it always cold at Christmas?
A: Because it's in Decemrrrrrr.
- Q: What can you get if you eat Christmas decorations?
A: Tinselitus
- Q: Who says "Oh, oh, oh?"
A: Santa Claus walking backwards
- Q: Who delivers Christmas presents to cats?
A: Santa Claws
- Q: What do you call Santa's little helpers?
A: Subordinate Clauses



Deck the Halls



Deck the halls with boughs of hol - ly! Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
See the blaz - ing yule be - fore us, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
Fast a - way the old year pass - es, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la



Tis the sea-son to be jol - ly! Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
Strike the harp and join the cho - rus, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
Hail the new, ye lads and lass-es, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la



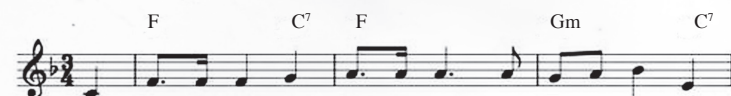
Don we now our gay ap - par - el, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
Fol - low me in mer - ry mea - sure, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
Sing we joy - ous all to - geth - er, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la



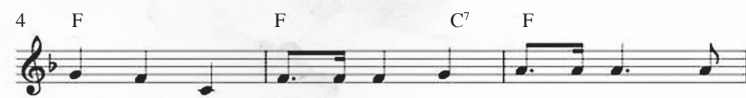
Troll the an - cient Yule - tide car - ol. Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
While I tell of Yule - tide trea - sure, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la
Heed - less of the wind and weath - er, Fa-la- la-l a- la. la la la la



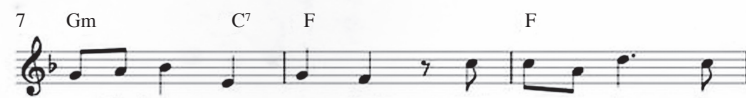
O Christmas Tree



O Christ - mas tree, O Christmas tree, How are thy leaves so
O Christ - mas tree, O Christmas tree, Much plea - sure doth thou
O Christ - mas tree, O Christmas tree, Thy can - dles shine out



ver - dant! O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, How
bring me! O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, Much
bright - ly! O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, Thy



are thy leaves so ver - dant! Not on - ly in the
plea - sure doth thou bring me! For ev - ry year the
can - dles shine out bright - ly! For ev - ry year the



sum - mer - time, But ev'n in win - ter is thy prime. O
Christ - mas tree, Brings to us all both joy and glee, O
Christ - mas tree, Brings to us all both joy and glee, O



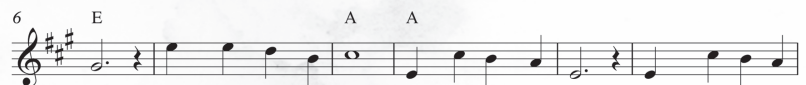
Christ - mas tree O, Christ - mas tree, How are thy leaves so ver - dant
Christ - mas tree O, Christ - mas tree, Much plea - sure doth thou bring me!
Christ - mas tree O, Christ - mas tree, Thy can - dles shine out bright - ly!



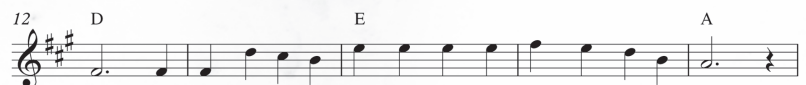
Jingle Bells



Dash - ing through the snow, In a one-horse o - pen sleigh, Over the fields we
A day or two a - go The sto - ry I must tell, I went out on the
Now the ground is white, Go it while you're young, Take the girls to-



go, Laugh - ing all the way; Bells on bob - tail ring, Mak - ing spi - rits
snow And on my back I fell; A gent was rid - ing by, In a one-horse o - pen
night And sing this sleigh - ing song; Just get a bob-tailed bay, Two for - ty as his



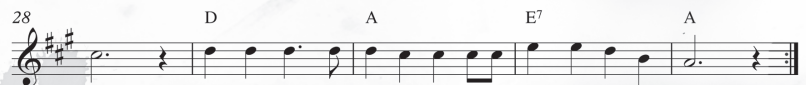
bright, What fun it is to ride and sing a sleigh - ing song to - night!
sleigh, He laughed as there I sprawl - ing lie, but quick - ly drove a - way
speed, Hitch him to an o - pen sleigh and crack! you'll take the lead.



Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, Jin - gle all the way! Oh, what fun it is to ride in a



one-horse o - pen sleigh! Hey! Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, Jin - gle all the



way! Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse o - pen sleigh!



Storytime

It was traditional in Victorian times to tell ghost stories at Christmas. This came from a centuries-old folk custom meant to help pass the long hours of a winter night and to acknowledge, in darkest winter, the death of the old year. This Christmas, gather around the fireplace and tell your own ghost stories, or read this book aloud with your family. You can assign each member a different part.

Merry Christmas, everyone!