

The IMYC logo consists of the letters 'IMYC' in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a red circle. A smaller green circle is positioned at the bottom right of the red circle. The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of various Christmas-themed icons, including Santa hats, candy canes, snow globes, holly leaves, and Christmas trees.

IMYC

A large, stylized illustration of a Santa hat with a red body and a white fur trim. The hat is positioned behind a large green circle that contains the main title text.

A
BUDGET
YOUTH
GROUP
CHRISTMAS

HELPFUL CHRISTMAS IDEAS FOR YOUR YOUTH GROUP

Party Food

THE BEST SLOW COOKER HOT CHOCOLATE

This will be a hit with your youth group, and a great addition to your Christmas Party! Recipe serves approximately 10 people.

Ingredients:

- 1L whole milk
- 300ml double cream
- 200g dark Chocolate
- 100g milk chocolate
- marshmallows, to serve
- whipped cream, to serve
- grated chocolate, to serve

Method:

STEP 1

Pour the milk and double cream into the slow cooker. Add both types of chocolate, then cover and cook on low for 2 hrs, stirring frequently to avoid skin forming on top.

STEP 2

Remove the lid and stir again, then continue to cook for 15-20 minutes. Ladle into mugs and top with your favourite hot chocolate toppings!



BBC Good Food recipe

NUTELLA PASTRY CHRISTMAS TREE

Ingredients: 500g pack puff pastry | 4 Tbsp Nutella, or other chocolate spread | 1 egg lightly beaten

STEP 1: Preheat oven to 190°C. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper

STEP 2: Roll out one puff pastry sheet into a large rectangle on a lightly floured surface and place on the prepared baking sheet

STEP 3: Lightly score the puff pastry into the shape of a Christmas tree with a wide space and spread the chocolate spread over the tree in a thin layer.

STEP 4: Roll out the second sheet of puff pastry to a large rectangle and place on top of the first one. Carefully trace the shape of the chocolate-covered triangle underneath and cut out the Christmas tree shape and trunk. Pull the excess away gently.

STEP 5: Lightly score 2 lines down the middle of the triangle to form a tree trunk that is narrower at the top and gets wider towards the base. Using the trunk as a guide, cut branches into the sides of the triangle.

STEP 6: Twist the branches away from you, trying to get in 2 turns on the lower branches. Continue moving up the tree, twisting away as you go.

STEP 7: Cut a small star out of the excess pastry; place it on top of the tree. Brush the star and the whole tree with a beaten egg.

STEP 8: Bake in the oven until puffy and golden brown, 12-15 minutes, cool slightly for about 5 minutes and serve.



Recipe and picture taken from www.allrecipes.com

Activities



SECRET SANTA

If you want a fun way to decide how much your group will spend on a Secret Santa gift for another member of the group, you could use dice! You can use an 8-sided dice (to find the pounds) and two 10-sided dice (to find the pennies). This means that the minimum about you might spend is £1.01 and the maximum is £8.99. If you don't have dice you can always google 'roll a dice'. It's always wise to be careful with activities that involve money - maybe you need to set a maximum that you think the young people could all afford, and you can always use a 6-sided dice to reduce the pounds.

THE SECRET SANTA STEALING GAME

- 1 Each player brings a wrapped gift and places it into the centre of the room or a big Santa sack. You need to set the maximum price to spend and if you want to choose a theme let everyone know this in advance.
- 2 Players will draw numbers from a hat to determine the order people will play the game.
- 3 Players sit in a circle in their order with the pile of gifts in the middle of the room.
- 4 The first player picks a gift and DOES NOT open it. This is the mystery gift and remains wrapped until the end.
- 5 The next player can either choose the mystery gift or one from the pile. If they choose a gift from the pile, they are able to open it and let everyone can see it.
- 6 The next person can either steal a gift from another player or take one from the middle of the pile/sack. If you get a gift stolen you can either pick another from the pile/sack or steal from someone else.
- 7 After all players have had their turn and the game is over the person with the mystery gift then gets to open it in front of everyone.

CHRISTMAS DINNER RELAY

This activity involves visiting different peoples' houses for one course of a Christmas dinner. This is a great way for your young people to get to know willing members of the congregation and an opportunity for older members of the congregation to get involved in the youth work. Give each home a course to prepare and a time to have it ready for. The youth group then walks or is transported to the houses for each course. To involve as many homes as possible you could do - nibbles, starter, main course, dessert, cheese course!

Games



CONJOINED CHRISTMAS JUMPER

Split your group into pairs. Pairs take it in turns to wear an XXXL Christmas jumper and complete a series of tasks. They should wear the jumper shoulder-to-shoulder with one arm of one person through one of the sleeves and the other persons arm through the other sleeve. Tasks could include wrapping a gift, decorating a tree/cookie or making a sandwich.

GIFT WRAP A LEADER

Provide your young people with wrapping paper, tape, bow and ribbons. Get them to wrap their youth leader up in 3 minutes. Make sure to leave their face uncovered. The best wrapped leader wins.

GIFT WRAP A LEADER P.T.2

Without telling the wrapped up leaders, prepare some tasks that they will need to do. Some of these ideas could be: egg and spoon race, running in an obstacle course, decorating a biscuit or getting messy and trying to retrieve things with their mouths, for example, picking out celebrations in a bowl full of baked beans.

Games



WORST FAMILY CHRISTMAS CARD PHOTO

Split your youth into smaller groups and put the groups in separate rooms. They will have to take the worst family Christmas photo they can. You can supply props, or the week before you can ask them to wear a Christmas jumper and bring in some fun Christmas props. Send the groups away and give them 10 mins to come up with their photo. Invite the minister to be the judge and have a prize!

CHRISTMAS MOVIE CHALLENGE

This game is all about recreating a scene from your favourite Christmas movie (with a twist). Write a variety of different Christmas movies, random props and movie genres on individual pieces of paper, place them in three bowls or hats. Split your groups into smaller groups or pairs and ask each group or pair to pick one from each category. Then give them 10 minutes to recreate a scene from that movie, in the genre with the prop. Let them perform them to the group.