



# Singing & Signing Resource Pack

## Christmas

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# Christmas - Learning Guide

Range: 12 notes (A to D)

Parts: 2

**You should always read the Singing and Signing Resources Guide in your downloaded resource pack before you start teaching this song to your group. It's important that as the leader you learn the signs first, especially if you're new to signing.**

## Context

This song was written by our Hands and Voices choir with the support of our facilitator Kath Fathers. In small groups we listed the feelings, thoughts, sights and smells that reminded us of Christmas. A small group then took those words and wrote the melody.

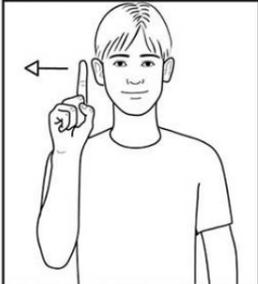
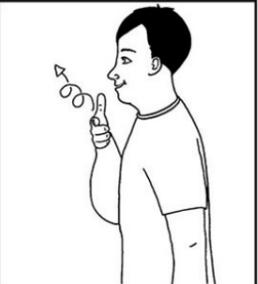
It has a two-part chorus that is a bit more challenging due to the interval jumps, but it makes a nice sound when you persevere! We like to swap the two parts round when the chorus repeats after verse 2 so that everyone gets a chance to sing each part. The words for group 1 are in black, the words for group 2 are in pink.

You can watch a full version of this song being performed by one of our leaders [here](#). We've also created [a teaching video of the full song](#) for you to use alongside this resource pack.

## Structure

1. There's an 8-bar introduction to this piece. Come in at the same time as the tambourine starts.
2. The song has a verse – chorus structure.
  - Verse 1
  - Chorus
  - Verse 2
  - Chorus
  - Finish with 1st half of the Chorus
3. There is no break between the verse and the chorus, but there is a short 2-bar break between the chorus and the verse where you will hear 8 beats on the tambourine before you start to sing again.

## Christmas - Sign Sheet (Verse 1)

<p><b>EXCITED</b></p>  <p>Clawed hands (palms back, pointing in) against upper chest.</p>	<p><b>HAPPY</b></p>  <p>Working cupped hand strikes twice across supporting palm moving towards heel of hand.</p>	<p><b>TO FEEL</b></p>  <p>Working extended middle finger (palm back, pointing in) brushes up against side of chest.</p>	<p><b>MIME FEELING GIDDY</b></p>
<p><u>Excited</u></p>	<p>we're <u>happy</u></p>	<p>we're <u>feeling</u></p>	<p>very <u>giddy</u></p>
<p><b>TO HEAR</b></p>  <p>Working index hand (palm forward, pointing up) moves out away from.</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.</p>	<p><b>BELLS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand at shoulder height bent at wrist (palm back, pointing down) swings from side to side.</p>	
<p>because we can <u>hear</u></p>	<p>the <u>Christmas</u></p>	<p><u>bells</u> ringing out today</p>	
<p><b>LAUGH</b></p>  <p>Working "L" hand (palm back, pointing in) below chin, makes small upward.</p>	<p><b>TO SHARE</b></p>  <p>Working bent hand (palm in, pointing forward) moves down to supporting flat hand (palm up, pointing in), then springs up changing to flat hand (palm in, pointing forward) and moves back down to rest on supporting palm.</p>	<p><b>MIME STOMPING THROUGH SNOW</b></p>	
<p><u>Laughing</u></p>	<p>we're <u>sharing</u></p>	<p>we're <u>crunching through the snow</u></p>	

<p><b>SMELL</b></p>  <p>Working open hand (palm down, pointing in) towards signer with fingers rippling. Directional sign.</p>	<p><b>FIRE</b></p>  <p>Open hands (palms in, pointing up) move up and down alternately with fingers flickering.</p>	<p><b>FIRE</b></p>  <p>Open hands (palms in, pointing up) move up and down alternately with fingers flickering.</p>
<p>and we <u>can smell</u></p>	<p>the crackling <u>fire</u></p>	<p><u>burning away</u></p>

Christmas - Sign Sheet (Chorus)

<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.</p>	<p><b>PIE</b></p>  <p>Thumb hands held out in front of body, circle out and back with small downward movements as though pressing pastry.</p>
<p><u>Christmas</u></p>	<p><u>mince pies</u></p>

<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.</p>	<p><b>WINE</b></p>  <p>Working "y" hand (palm in, pointing forward/up) in front of mouth makes a short movement towards the mouth bending back slightly at wrist.</p>
<p><u>Christmas</u></p>	<p><u>mulled wine</u></p>

<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.</p>	<p><b>BELLS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand at shoulder height bent at wrist (palm back, pointing down) swings from side to side.</p>
<p><u>Christmas</u></p>	<p><u>sleigh bells ring yes</u></p>

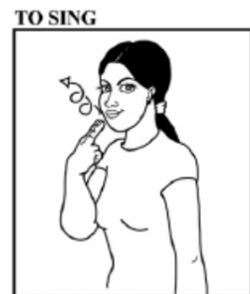
<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.</p>	<p><b>TO COME</b></p>  <p>Working "R" hand (palm back, pointing up) held up in front of body, moves back towards body.</p>
<p><u>Christmas</u></p>	<p><u>is on it's way</u></p>

<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b></p>  <p>Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.</p>	<p><b>PRESENT</b></p>  <p>"O" hands (palms in/down, pointing forward/in) make small forward circles around each other and pull apart.</p>
<p><u>Christmas</u></p>	<p><u>presents</u></p>



Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.

Christmas



Working "N" hand (palm back, pointing in/up) moves in upward circles forwards from lips.

singing



Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.

Christmas



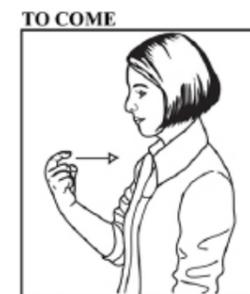
"O" hands (palms forward, pointing up) are held in front of body with "O"s touching; hands move slowly down and apart.

peace and love yes



Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.

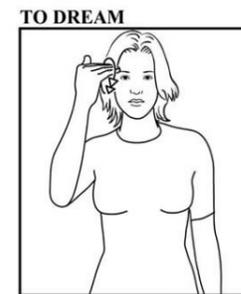
Christmas



Working "R" hand (palm back, pointing up) held up in front of body, moves back towards body.

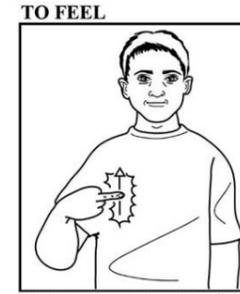
is on it's way

Christmas - Sign Sheet (Verse 2)



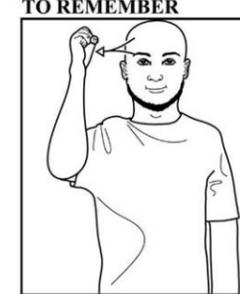
Working bent hand (palm in/back, pointing up) beside the forehead, makes small forward circles.

Dreaming



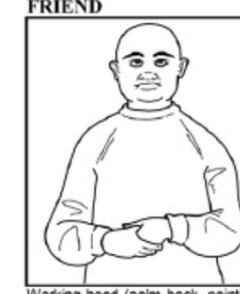
Working extended middle finger (palm back, pointing in) brushes up against side of chest.

we're feeling



Working index hand points to temple; hand moves out changing to fist (palm in, pointing up).

remembering



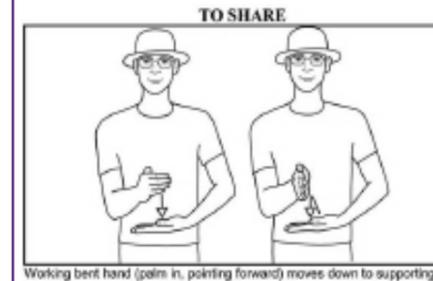
Working hand (palm back, pointing in/down) clasps supporting hand (palm back, pointing in/down).

our friends



Working index hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) taps back of supporting wrist twice.

because of the times



Working bent hand (palm in, pointing forward) moves down to supporting flat hand (palm up, pointing in), then springs up changing to flat hand (palm in, pointing forward) and moves back down to rest on supporting palm.

that we have shared



Working flat hand (palm back, pointing in/down) moves back a short distance over working shoulder.

in Christmases past



Working bunched hand (palm back, pointing up) taps twice at working side of mouth.

Eating



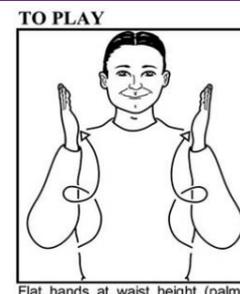
Working full "C" hand (palm in, pointing forward) moves up to mouth turning to point up.

we're drinking



"V" hands (palms back, pointing up) waggle at wrists whilst making alternate forward circles.

we party



Flat hands at waist height (palms in/up, pointing forward/out) travel up while making two vertical outward circles. Do not flex wrists.

and we play



Fists (palms in, pointing forward), arms swing as though running.

Then get ready to run away

**PULL A DISGUSTED FACE!**

from the smell of brussle sprouts!