

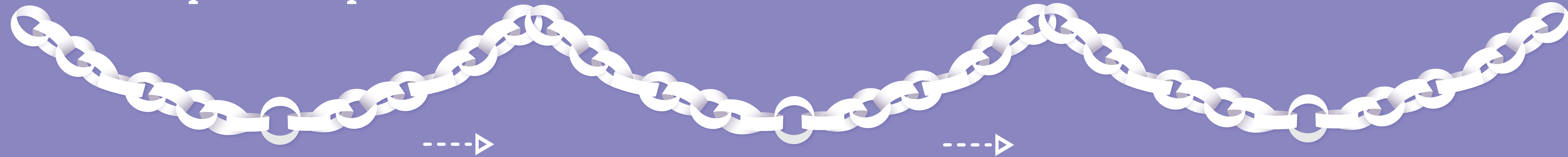


What You Will Need

- ✓ Strips of coloured paper or newspaper, approximately 1" x 8.5"
- ✓ Either a glue stick, Sellotape or a stapler

The Steps

1. Tape, glue, or staple the ends of one paper strip together to make a loop.
2. Insert a second strip of paper into the loop.
3. Tape, glue or staple this strip to make an interconnected loop.
4. Continue until your paper chain is as long as you want it.



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Salt Dough Christmas Tree Decorations



What You Will Need

- ✓ Salt dough recipe
 - 250g plain flour
 - 125g table salt
 - 125ml water
- ✓ Plain flour (for dusting)
- ✓ Rolling pin
- ✓ Christmas cookie cutters
- ✓ Acrylic paints or felt tips
- ✓ Thin ribbon or string



The Steps

1. Make your salt dough recipe by combining the flour, salt and water.
2. Roll the salt dough out to a thickness of about 5mm.
3. Use the biscuit cutters to cut shapes from the dough.
4. Press the tip of a piping nozzle into the top of each shape to make a neat hole.
5. This step is for the adults! Set your oven to its lowest heat. Put your shapes on a lined baking sheet and bake for 3 hours.
6. Once cool, paint and decorate.
7. To finish, loop the ribbon through the hole and tie at the top, ready to hang on the tree.





Christmas Table Name Cards



What You Will Need

- ✓ Card or paper
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Glue or sticky tape
- ✓ Option glitter

The Steps

1. Cut your pieces of card or paper approximately 3.9" x 3.9".
2. Fold your piece of paper in half.
3. Write your guests name on the card.
4. Get creative and decorate your card in a festive theme.



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Homemade Scented Playdough

What You Will Need

- ✓ 2 mixing bowls
- ✓ 125ml water
- ✓ 1 tbs vegetable oil
- ✓ 2 tsp cream of tartar
- ✓ 125g plain flour
- ✓ 60g table salt
- ✓ Optional food colouring, vanilla extract, peppermint extract, or cinnamon

The Steps

1. In one bowl, combine all of your dry ingredients and mix well.
2. In the second bowl, add in the vegetable oil, food colouring, scent, and water.
3. Slowly add in your dry ingredients into the second bowl.
4. Let your dough cool and then knead. If the dough feels sticky, add more flour.
5. Now, have fun playing with your Christmas playdough.

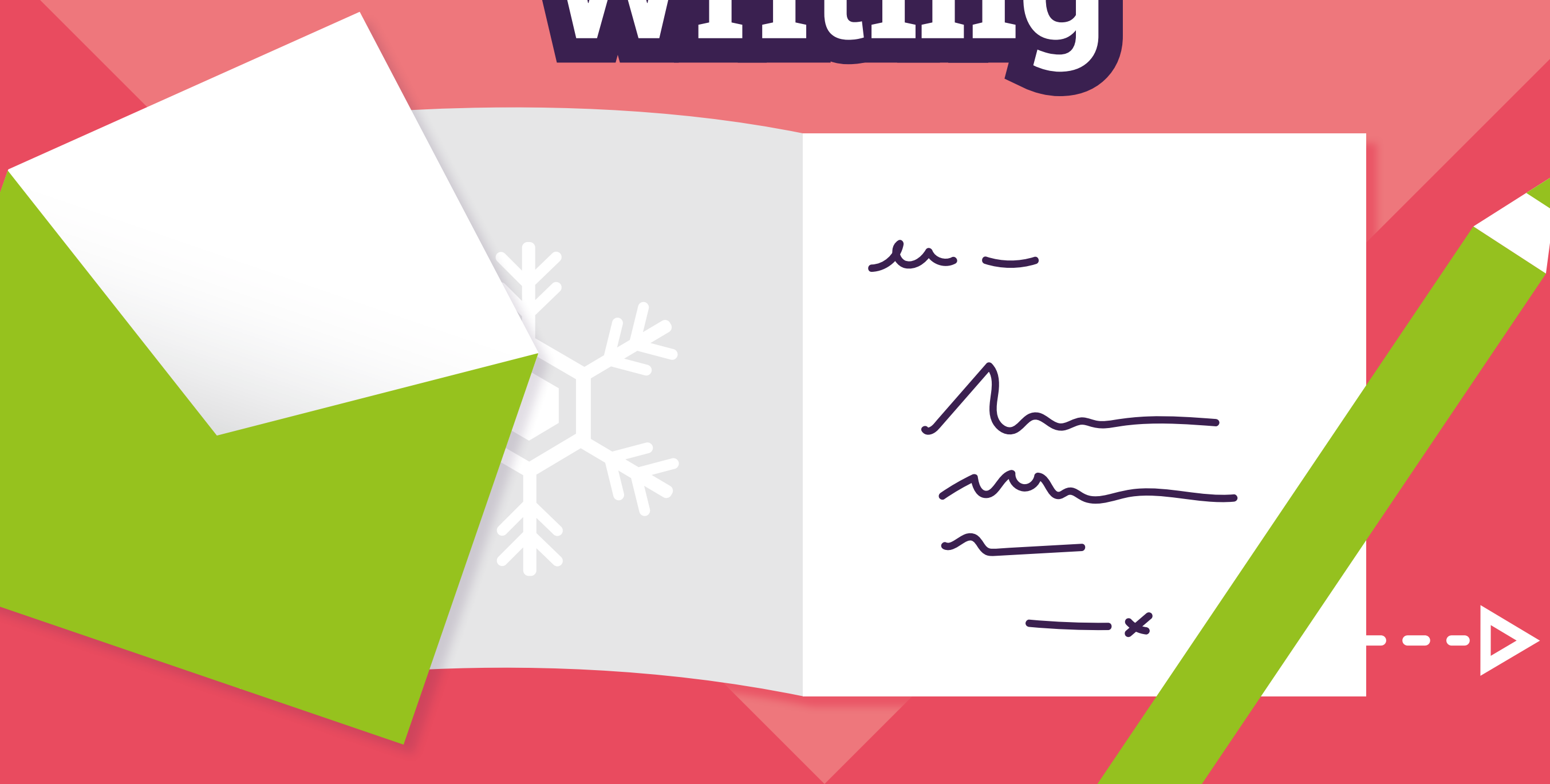
5 Christmas Memory Game



How To Play

- 1.** The first player begins by saying, 'I went to the Christmas market and bought a...' adding an item they would buy. For example, 'I went to the Christmas market and bought a selection box.'
- 2.** The next player continues, adding an item of their own. They should say 'I went to the Christmas market and bought a selection box and a...' (adding a new item purchased).
- 3.** Taking it in turns, each player continues to add to the list of shopping items.

6 Christmas Card Writing



Things You Might Need

- ✓ Pen or pencil
- ✓ Printer
- ✓ Paper or card
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Glue or sticky tape
- ✓ Sheet of printable stickers
- ✓ Potato and crafting knife
- adult help is required



Some Ideas

1. If your child struggles with handwriting, practice writing their name on a separate piece of paper, which you can cut and stick onto the card.
2. If your child struggles to use a pen, order some pre-printed stickers with their name so they can still get involved.
3. Use a potato printing technique. Carve your child's initials (in reverse) onto a potato. Fill a saucer full of paint. Dip the potato in the paint so they can print their signature in a unique way.





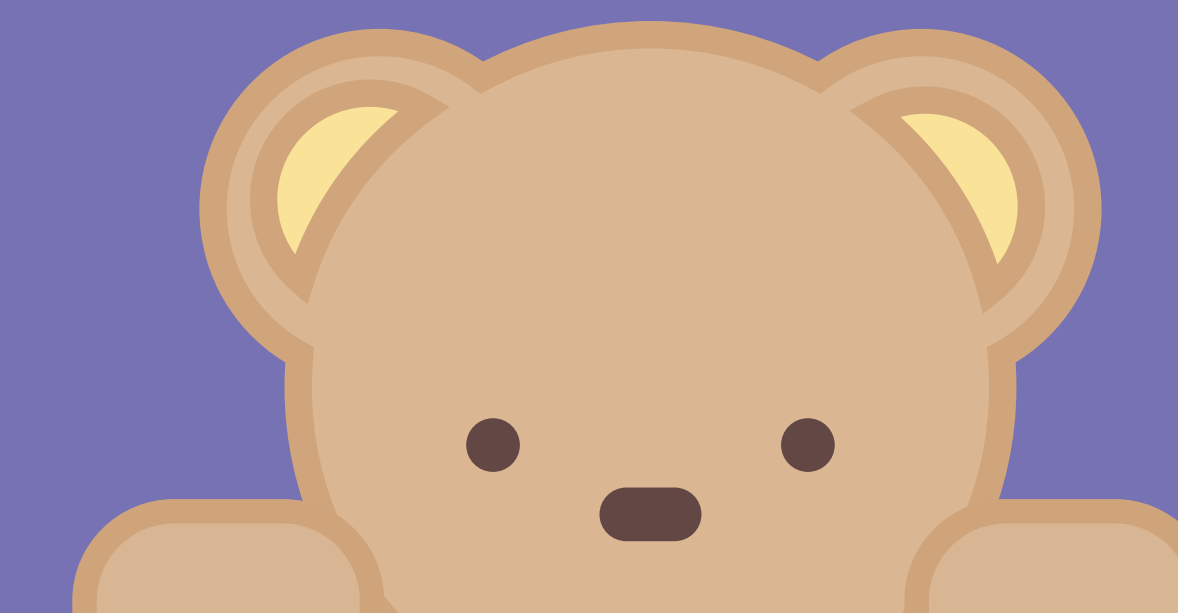
What You Will Need

- ✓ Cushions & pillows
- ✓ 2 or 3 blankets
- ✓ Hot water bottle or wheat-bag
- ✓ Cuddly toys
- ✓ Essential oils



The Steps

1. A quick and easy way to make a fort is to use a table as your base. Pull the chairs away from a 4-legged table and drape a large blanket over it.
2. Place another blanket on the floor and some pillows to make the space nice and comfortable.
3. Add in some of your child's favourite cuddly toys and a hot water bottle or wheat-bag.
4. If you'd like to use some comforting scents, we would suggest using essential oils, by putting a few drops over some pillows or blankets.
5. Now, cosy up and enjoy your favourite festive film!



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Practice Gift Wrapping



What You Will Need

- ✓ Wrapping paper or newspaper
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Sticky tape
- ✓ Different shaped boxes and tins to replicate the gift



The Steps

1. Measure out the paper so it covers all of the sides of the gift you are wrapping.
2. Cut out 3-5 squares of sticky tape per gift and put to one side.
3. Place your box or tin in middle of the paper and fold in two sides into the middle.
4. Tape down the two sides.
5. Then fold in the two remaining ends and secure with tape.



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Play Santa Says



The Steps

3 or more players required

- 1.** Assign one person to be 'Santa' and the other players will follow Santa's instructions.
- 2.** The players must obey all commands that begin with the phrase "Santa says". If Santa says, "Santa says touch your nose" then all players must touch their nose.

- 3.** Santa can try and catch other players out by just saying "touch your nose". If the players obey the command when Santa didn't say "Santa says", then they are out.
- 4.** If you want to make this extra Christmassy, you could try adding in some festive-inspired commands such as "Santa says stand tall like a Christmas tree."



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Snowball Toss Game

What You Will Need

- ✓ Paper cups
- ✓ Cotton wool balls

The Steps

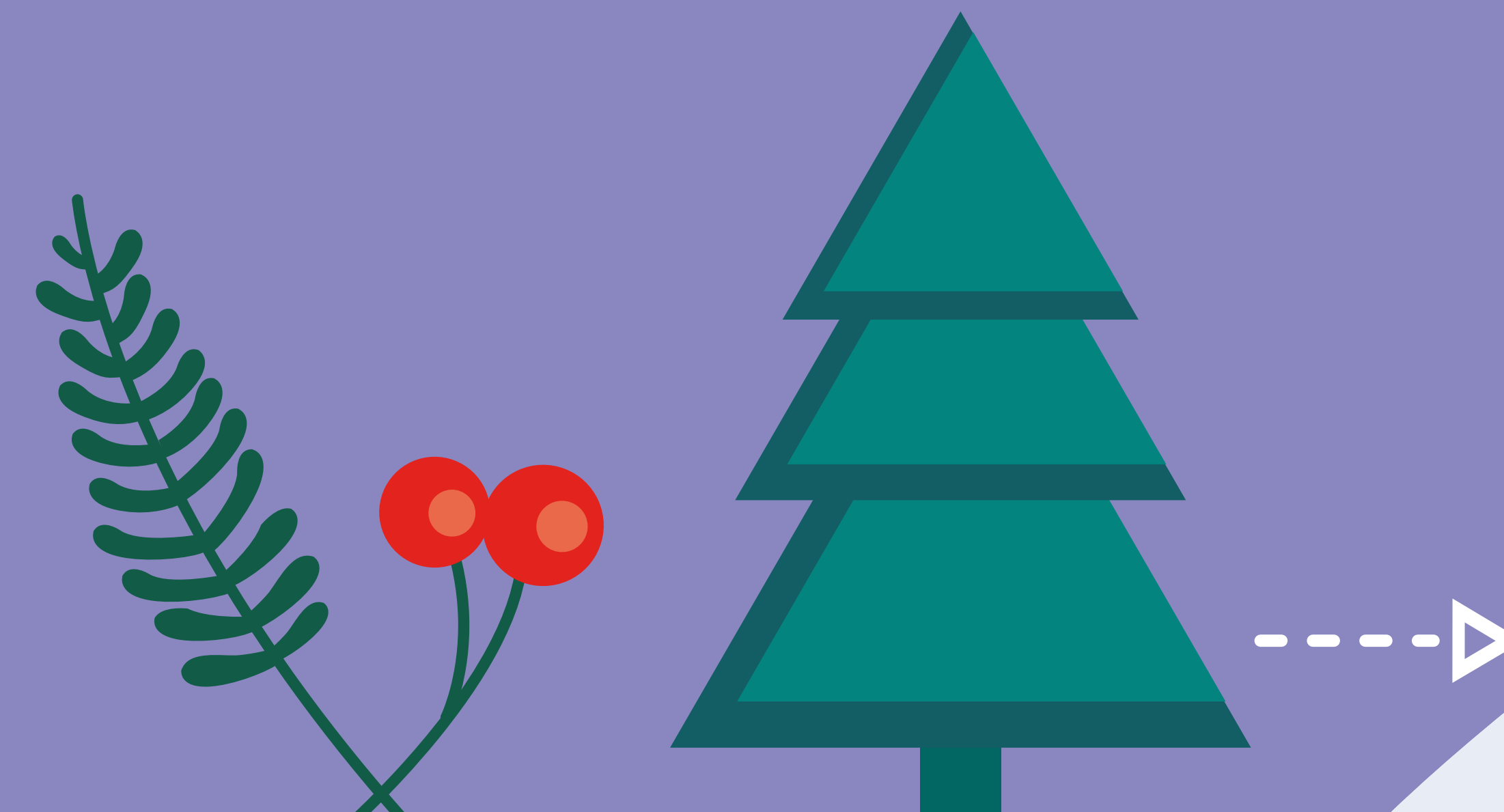
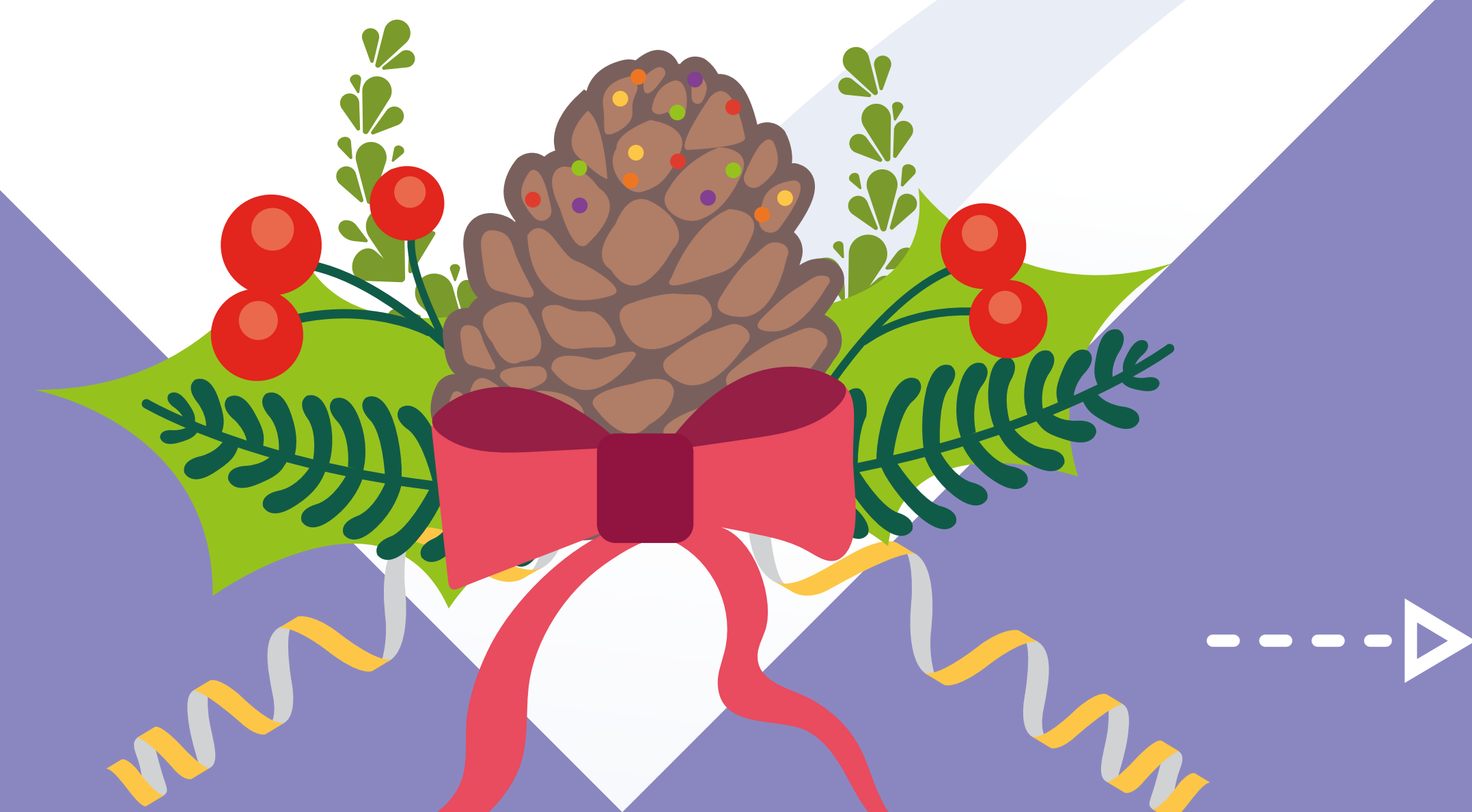
1. Place your paper cups on the floor.
2. Get your child to take a step back, and throw the cotton ball into the cup. If the shot is on target, the child can take another step back.
3. See how far back they can get after each shot, whilst still hitting the target with the cotton wool ball.

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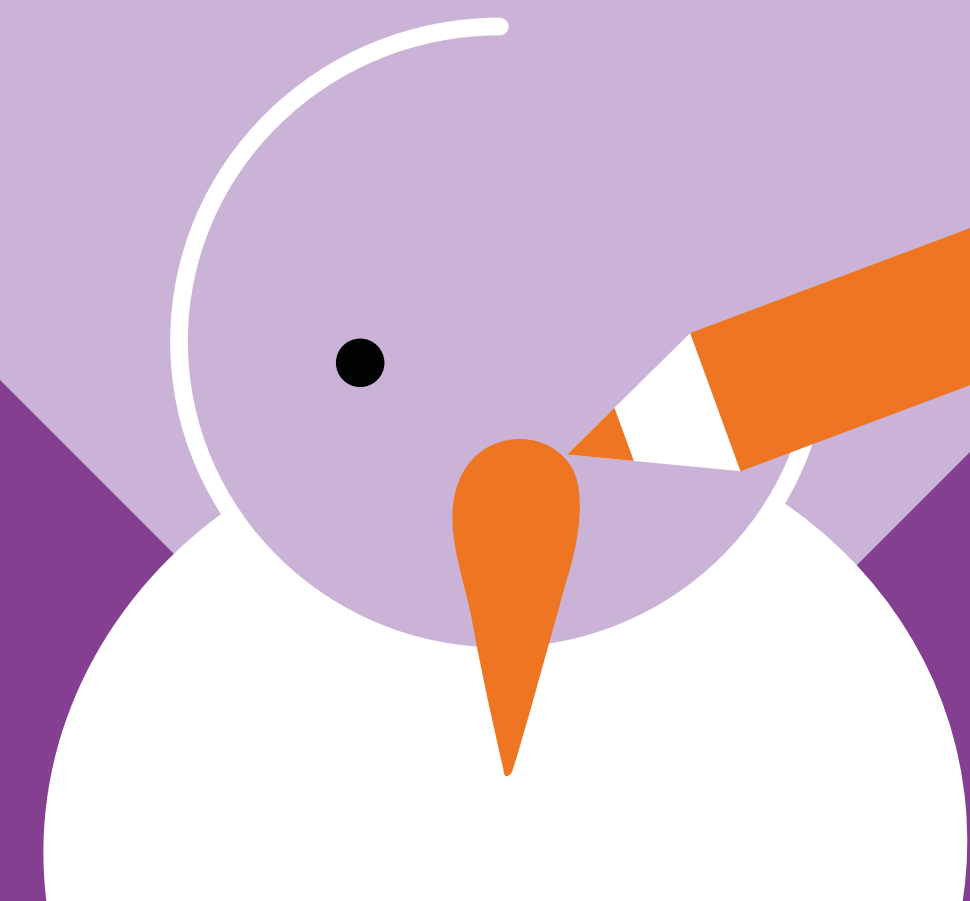
Winter Walk

The Steps

1. Wrap up warm and take your child out for a wintery walk.
2. While walking, discuss what they can see, hear and smell to engage their senses.
3. Pick up some leaves, pine cones and twigs.
4. Take your items home to craft a collage, personalise Christmas cards, or even create a centre piece!

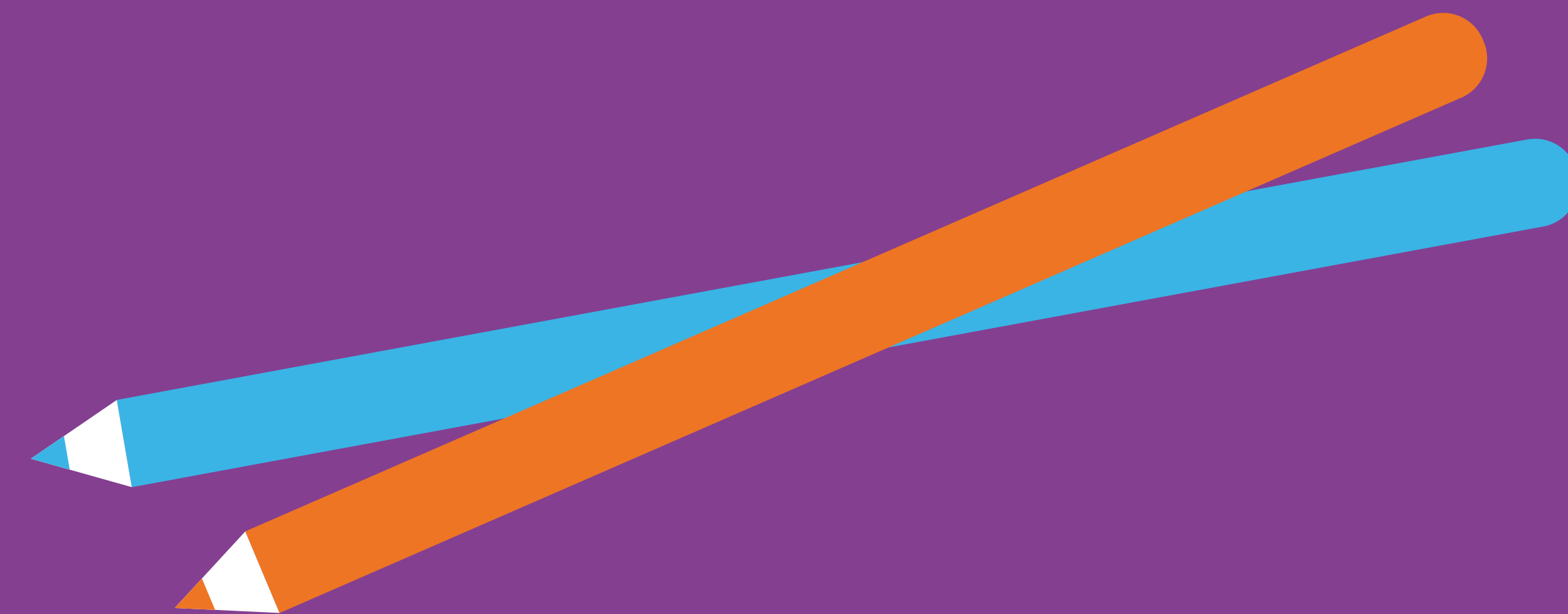


12 Christmas Communication Pictures



What You Will Need

- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Coloured pens, pencils or crayons



The Steps

1. Get your child to draw a festive image - no peeking!
2. Sit back to back with your child.
3. Instruct your child to describe their creation in small steps. For example, "draw a large circle in the middle of the page... now on top of the circle, draw a smaller circle..."
4. Once complete, swap roles and continue with the fun.

