

## Making a Christingle

Christingle is a celebratory event that takes place in thousands of churches and schools across the UK. Develop children's knowledge and understanding of the world and awareness of cultures with this festive activity.

### Learning aims

- Physical development
- Creativity
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Keeping safe
- Developing respect for others
- Awareness of own and other cultures.



### Resources

For each Christingle you will need:

- An orange (the world)
- A candle (the light of the world)
- Sheet of foil cut into small squares about 75mm (3'')
- Red ribbon/tape (love wrapped around the world)
- Four cocktail sticks
- Selection of dried fruit/mini marshmallows (God's creations or the four seasons)
- Pair of scissors.

### Activity outline

- Make sure adults supervise children throughout the making of their Christingles
- Encourage children to wash their hands first
- Let each child choose an orange. Support them to fasten a piece of red sticky tape/ribbon around the middle
- Cut a small cross in the top of the orange. For health and safety reasons, remember to discuss the danger of sharp knives with the children
- Support children to lay a square of silver foil over the cut
- Help children place a candle on top of the foil and wedge it firmly into the orange
- Support the children to thread the dried fruit/mini marshmallows onto the cocktail sticks so that the tips are covered
- Assist children to insert the sticks around the base of the candle
- Store your Christingles upright in a cool place. Don't make them too far in advance as they don't keep for very long
- The highlight of most Christingle celebrations usually involves the lighting of the Christingle candles under dimmed lights.

## Special considerations

- *Be aware of children with allergies e.g. oranges. Ensure they can take part in the activity by replacing the orange with another fruit*
- *Be considerate of children of other faiths and non.*