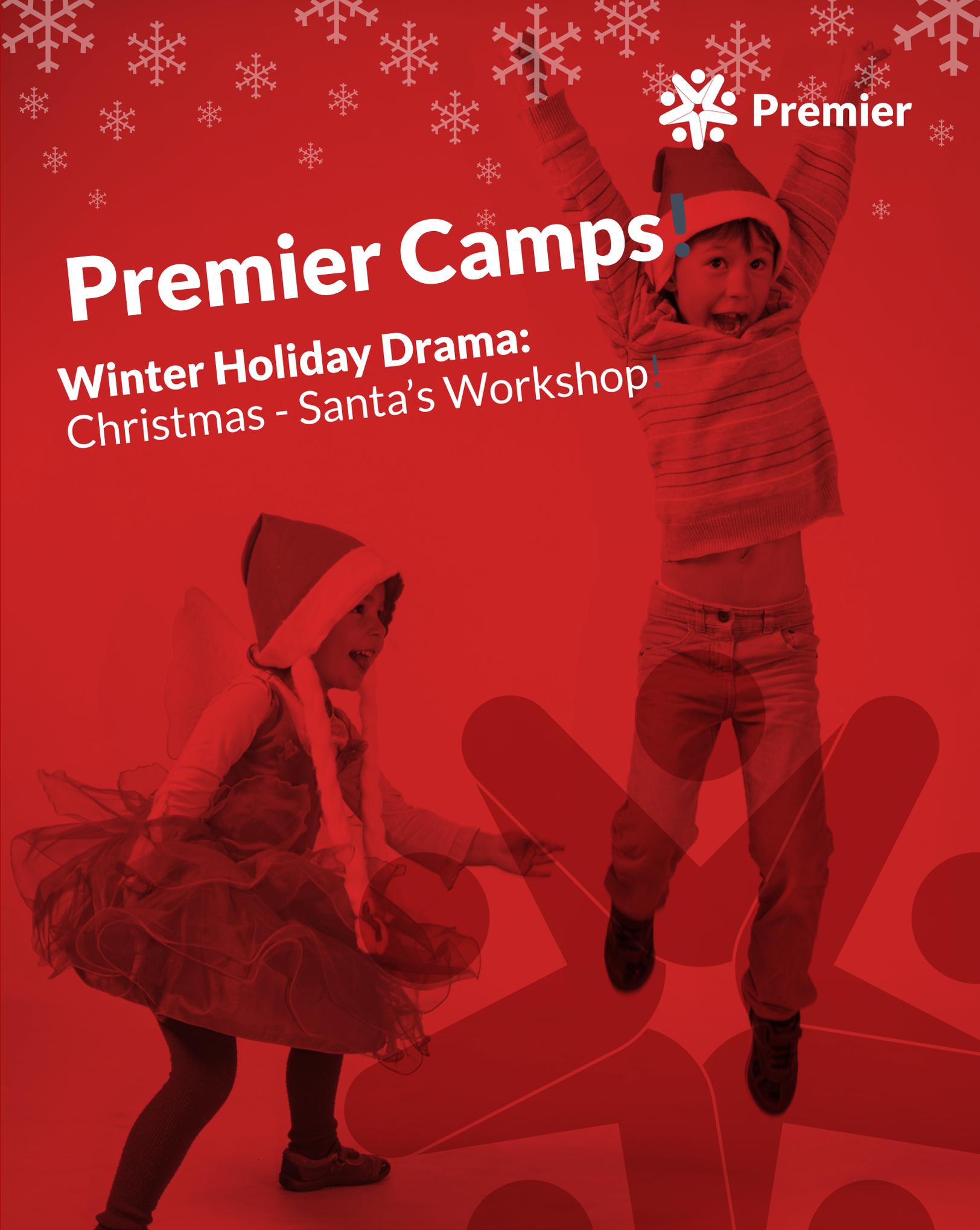




# Premier Camps!

**Winter Holiday Drama:  
Christmas - Santa's Workshop!**



## Overview

1. Christmas games
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3. Movement to Music
4. The Holly & the Ivy
5. What's the time Mr Grinch
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10. The 12 days of Christmas
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12. Present delivery
13. Snowstorm
14. Christmas murder
15. SHOWCASE

**Premier Camps:**  
Explore & Play

**Activity 1:**  
Christmas Games

**Equipment:**

- Blindfold
- Keys
- Four corner signs

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**Keeper of Christmas:**

- The children sit in a circle with one child blindfolded in the middle. The child in the middle is a sleeping Father Christmas. He has fallen asleep and the keys to the sled have been left out. The 'naughty elves' must creep around the circle to try and steal the keys.

**Four Corners:**

- Using pictures or words create four corners
- Corner 1- Father Christmas  
 Corner 2- Elves  
 Corner 3- Reindeer  
 Corner 4- Snowman

Ask the children to demonstrate the mime they associate with that Christmas Character. Children start in the middle. The activity professional shouts out the names of the different corners. When the children run to each corner they must enact a suitable mime. After a few goes the last child to each corner/or any child who does the incorrect action is out, and supports the activity professional.

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**Activity 2:**  
Dancer, Prancer and Comet

**Equipment:**

- Carrot

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**Dancer, Prancer and Comet**

- Ask the children to demonstrate the mime they associate with that Christmas Character. Children start in the middle. The activity professional shouts out the names of the different corners. When the children run to each corner they must enact a suitable mime. After a few goes the last child to each corner/or any child who does the incorrect action is out, and supports the activity professional.

**Premier Camps:**  
Explore & Play**Activity 3:**  
Movement to Music**Equipment:**

- Pre-prepared 'action slips' (See below)
- Instrumental music
- CD player

**Age range:** 4-7**Timings:** 45 - 60 mins**Activity Description:****Movement to Music:**

- Children are to work in pairs or small groups. Give each pair/group a 'Christmas Action' slip
- For example- wrapping presents, hanging up stocking, cooking roast turkey, playing Christmas games, decorating the tree, singing carols, building a snowman, meeting Father Christmas, flying a sleigh etc.
- Play a piece of instrumental music to the group. Discuss with the children what emotions and feelings the music makes them think of. Ask the children to create a movement sequence to the music that demonstrates the action they have just been given. This doesn't have to be a dance, but can be if a group choses too. Focus needs to be on movement and mine.
- Showcase a few examples and discuss the drama techniques.

**Action Slips:**

- Wrapping presents
- Hanging up stocking
- Cooking roast turkey
- Playing Christmas games
- Decorating the tree
- Singing carols
- Building a snowman
- Meeting Father Christmas
- Flying a sleigh

**Premier Camps:**

Explore &amp; Play

**Activity 4:**

The Holly &amp; The Ivy

**Equipment:**

- None

**Age range:** 4-7**Timings:** 45-60 mins**Activity Description:****The Holly & The Ivy:**

- The children stand together in pairs with their arms linked. Two children play a game of tag among the linked pairs. One being the 'Holly' and the other the 'Ivy'. If a tag occurs, the roles are reserved, with a one-second delay. If the child being chased links arms with one of the pairs, the child at the other end of the new trio becomes the one being chased.
- Repeat as necessary.

**Premier Camps:**

Explore &amp; Play

**Activity 5:**

What's the time Mr Grinch?

**Equipment:**

- None

**Age range:** 4-7**Timings:** 45-60 mins**Activity Description:****Dancer, Prancer and Comet**

- The children line up at one end of the room and a selected child stands at the other end, with their back to the group. This child is 'The Grinch'. The children call out in unison 'What's the time Mr Grinch', and 'The Grinch' answers by giving a time. For example '2 o'clock'. The children take as many steps towards 'The Grinch'. This is repeated until 'The Grinch' answers 'Christmas is cancelled' and turns and chases the children back to the start. If 'The Grinch' catches anyone, they are out.
- Repeat as necessary.

**Premier Camps:**  
Explore & Play

**Activity 6:**  
Christmas Costumes

**Equipment:**

- A selection of Christmas props and costumes

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**The Holly & The Ivy:**

- The children select one prop or costume from the selection offered. The children are to create a character based around the prop or costume they have chosen. They must incorporate characterisation and physical theatre elements into their character. The prop/costume can be used as a character stimulus and/or to support their character work. (For example- tinsel helps support the character work related to a little girl decorating a tree for the first time. For example- a song sheet helps support a character who is singing carols).
- Children work with a partner to create a short scene where the two characters they have just created might meet. Ask the children to think about what they might discuss, where the scene might take place and how they can incorporate the props/costumes into the scene.
- Allow time to rehearse and perform

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Explore & Play

**Activity 7:**  
The Grinch, Elves & Children

**Equipment:**

- None

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**Dancer, Prancer and Comet**

- A fun group version of 'Paper, Scissors, stone')
- Divide the group into two teams. Each team takes on a different side of the room.
- Each team secretly decides if they are going to be 'The Grinch, Elves or Children'. They line up on two sides of the room facing each other. The teacher counts 1, 2, and 3. On each number the groups takes one step forward. On "3" they take up the position of the character the group has decided on:
  - Grinch: miserable face and arms folded
  - Elves: put invisible cloak over their shoulders
  - Children: pull faces and tell jokes
    - The Grinch beat Elves- by making them unhappy
    - Elves beat Children- by going invisible and sneaking off
    - Children beat The Grinch - by telling him jokes and making him laugh
- The losing team must run back to their side of the room. The winning team try to "tag" as many of the losing team as possible before they get home. The captives now become part of their captors' team. Continue until one team wins.

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Explore & Play

**Activity 8:**  
Christmas Tree

**Equipment:**

- An assortment of pieces of materials and fabric - large small, different textures and colours

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**Christmas Tree**

- The children sit in a large circle. In the middle of the circle is an assortment of pieces of materials and fabric - large small, different textures and colours. The children select one or two pieces of material each. They must decide how the material can be used as part of a huge Christmas tree. For example tinsel, tree branches, decorations, presents etc. Showcase a few examples and discuss ideas.
- The group are to physically create a large Christmas tree all together. Led by the activity professional the children enter the circle one at a time, with a piece of material and begin to make a large tree, using physical theatre.
- Once the tree is made, led by the activity professional, a few children can be selected to bring to life decorating the tree and putting out the presents.
- Repeat as many times as necessary. Children can swap materials and create smaller trees/Christmas scenes in groups/pairs.

**Premier Camps:**  
Explore & Play

**Activity 9:**  
Enterprising Elves

**Equipment:**

- Large sheet
- Random everyday objects

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**Dancer, Prancer and Comet**

- The children sit in a large circle. In the middle of the circle is a large sheet with objects underneath. The objects tell the story of how the Elves make the presents. The objects are all useful 'tools' that the Elves might use to make the presents. (These can be weird and wonderful everyday objects- for example tin opener, ruler, hairbrush, shoe, mirror etc.)
- The children are given 30 seconds to look at the objects underneath the sheet. They need to try and memorise what there is. The children shut their eyes and the activity professional removes one object and hides it out of sight. The children try and guess what has been removed. Once a child knows they raise their hand. This allows other children to keep playing even if their peers have guessed before them.
- Repeat as necessary.
- Challenge task- Ask the children to decide how each random object can be used in an inventive way to make presents.

**Premier Camps:**

Explore &amp; Play

**Activity 10:**

The 12 Days of Christmas

**Equipment:**

- An assortment of pieces of materials and fabric
- 'The 12 Days of Christmas' lyrics sheet (See below)

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**
**The 12 Days of Christmas**

- Read the 'The 12 days of Christmas' lyrics as a group.
- Discuss the characters it contains. Give each child or pair one of the days of Christmas.
- The children are to create a mime and action related to their character. They bring their character to life as the song lyrics are read as a group.
- See below for '12 Days of Christmas' lyrics.
- Repeat as necessary.

**Premier Camps:**

Explore &amp; Play

**Activity 11:**

Toy Machine

**Equipment:**

- None

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**
**Toy Machine**

- Discuss that over the year the Elves are hard at work making and wrapping all the presents. In pairs the children must decide what present as Elves they are going to make and wrap. For example- toy car, dolly, rocking horse etc.
- Together they must create a short mime demonstrating hammering, sawing, chopping, painting, wrapping etc., as they make the present.
- The children showcase a few of their mimes to the class. As a group the children are going to create one large 'Essence Machine'. A large repeated mime that involves all the children demonstrating the huge toy making machine. One-by-one each pair go into the centre of the circle and 'add on' their section of the machine. They repeat their mime until all pairs have joined. They must all be connected to one another. Add in sounds if necessary.
- Divide the children into small groups. 4/5 per group. Give each group a Christmas word or phrase. Ask them to create their own 'Essence Machine' that represents this word. Allow time to rehearse.

**Premier Camps:**  
Explore & Play

**Activity 12:**  
Present Delivery

**Equipment:**

- None

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**Present Delivery**

- The children walk around the space and mime reactions to a set of instructions related to the Elves helping Father Christmas deliver the presents. They are always on the lookout for dangers and people sighting them.
- Tell the elves the instructions that they need to follow as the activity professional calls them out.
- If an 'Elf' does the wrong instruction or is last to complete the instruction, they are out and helps the activity professional.
- Repeat as necessary.
  - 'Freeze'- Elf freezes on the spot
  - 'Drop and roll'- the Elf drops and rolls
  - 'Birds eye view'- the Elf stands on tippy toes and looks down
  - 'Magic dust'- the Elf waves magic dust to make anyone who sees them forget
  - 'Play dead'- the Elf lies on the floor with their feet in the air
  - 'Spider Elf'- the Elf climbs up the walls

**Premier Camps:**  
Explore & Play

**Activity 13:**  
Snowstorm

**Equipment:**

- Small non-slip mat/carpet

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**Snowstorm**

- Discuss with the children that a snowstorm has hit the local town.
- Create 'safe zones' out of the storm by using small non-slip mats/carpets. Children walk around the space. When the activity professional shouts 'Snowstorm' the children must step onto the mats to stay in the game.
- Gradually remove each mat/carpet as the game progresses. If they can't fit onto a mat, they are out.

**Premier Camps:**  
Explore & Play

**Activity 14:**  
SHOWCASE

**Equipment:**

- None

**Age range:** 4-7

**Timings:** 45-60 mins

**Activity Description:**

**SHOWCASE**

- Allow time for children to select some of the performance pieces they have created throughout the week.
- They can add and alter these if necessary and combine elements of them together.
- Allow time to rehearse and show as a showcase at the final session.
  - For example-
  - Movement to Music
  - Christmas Costumes
  - Christmas Tree
  - Snowstorm

## Activity 10 - The Twelve Days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
A Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the second day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the third day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the fourth day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the fifth day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the sixth day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
6 Geese a Laying  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the seventh day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
7 Swans a Swimming  
6 Geese a Laying  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the eighth day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
8 Maids a Milking  
7 Swans a Swimming  
6 Geese a Laying  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the ninth day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
9 Ladies Dancing  
8 Maids a Milking  
7 Swans a Swimming  
6 Geese a Laying  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the tenth day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
10 Lords a Leaping  
9 Ladies Dancing  
8 Maids a Milking  
7 Swans a Swimming  
6 Geese a Laying  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the eleventh day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
11 Pipers Piping  
10 Lords a Leaping  
9 Ladies Dancing  
8 Maids a Milking  
7 Swans a Swimming  
6 Geese a Laying  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree

On the twelfth day of Christmas  
my true love sent to me:  
12 Drummers Drumming  
11 Pipers Piping  
10 Lords a Leaping  
9 Ladies Dancing  
8 Maids a Milking  
7 Swans a Swimming  
6 Geese a Laying  
5 Golden Rings  
4 Calling Birds  
3 French Hens  
2 Turtle Doves  
and a Partridge in a Pear Tree