

Teacher support activities

Great games: "Pass the parcel"

- This is a party game that children in English speaking countries play at birthday parties. To make the parcel, the class needs: ten strips of paper, wrapping paper (newspaper or magazines), tape, some sweets or stickers.
- First, have the students write an instruction on each of the strips of paper. For example: 1. Count from 20 backwards. 2. Go and touch the door. 3. Name three animals, etc.
- Wrap one sticker or sweet with the strip of paper with the instruction. Make sure it is taped closed. Continue wrapping adding another layer and another sweet or sticker and strip of paper with the instruction to the parcel so that the parcel gets bigger and bigger. When all ten instructions have been wrapped together, you are ready to start the game.
- Have the students sit in a circle. Play music. The students pass the parcel from student to student. When the music stops, the child holding the parcel unwraps one layer.
- He or she reads the instruction out loud and carries it out. As long as he or she gives it a try, he or she should be allowed to keep the sweet or sticker. The parcel is passed around until all the layers have been opened.

CLIL link: Math

This activity can be used to practise months and dates to celebrate someone's birthday.

Divide the class into groups of 3 or 4. The students write a list of the months of the year on a piece of paper. Tell them they are going to do a 'birthday survey'.

Students move around the class in their groups and find out when everyone's birthday is. They ask, "When is your birthday?" and put a tick next to the month.

When the students have all the information for everyone in the class, show them how to make a graph. Put the

months on the horizontal axis and the number of people on the vertical axis. The class draw graphs in their groups.

Suggestion:

The students could make poster size graphs using different colours for each month. They could also try to write some sentences about each month, For example: Two students in our class have a birthday in December. Nobody has a birthday in August.

English theatre: "Not your average dog"

Susan: Come on Coco, follow me! We're going for a walk.

Coco: What! I'm not a dog.

Susan: Come on, come on! We need the exercise.

Coco: You need the exercise. I need a nap!

Susan: Pleeeeease Coco! Come on!

Coco: Oh okay. Anything for you Susan.

(Susan and Coco start walking. They meet Dad.)

Dad: I can't stop. Bye.

Susan: Bye Dad.

Coco: Slow down man. You're going nowhere fast!

(Susan and Coco meet Mum.)

Mum: Sorry darlings, I can't stop - I'm in a hurry.

Susan: Bye Mum.

Coco: Slow down woman. What's the hurry?

(Susan and Coco meet Jack, Tommy and Benny.)

Jack, Tommy and Benny: Sorry mate! We can't stop and chat - we're late!

Coco: Hey! What's going on? Is everyone crazy?

(Susan and Coco continue walking.)

Susan: Ready to go home, Coco?

Coco: Okay.

(Susan and Coco arrive at the house. They open the door.)

Susan, Mum, Dad, Jack, Tommy and Benny: SURPRISE! Happy Birthday Coco!

Coco: Whiskers! That was why everyone was in a hurry!