## Christmas

## Party Food

You want to make the food part of Christmas parties as easy as possible. Often the simplest way is to give the children of each class a food item to contribute. For example one class could provide cakes, another class could provide crisps. One class could provide bread another could provide the fillings,

You may want your class to make some of the food themselves as a cookery/maths activity. Therefore many of the following snacks are simple enough for children to make.

## Christmas sandwiches

Make sandwiches using favorite ingredients, and cut out trees, ornaments, and Santa using full-sized metal cookie cutters. For a healthier classroom party cut other types of food into Christmas shapes! Try watermelon, hard cheese etc,

## Christmas biscuits

Use a simple biscuit recipe and cut out as trees, ornaments, Santa, snowmen, etc. When the biscuits have cooked and are cool place one biscuit on a plate with a plastic knife. Each child could then come and decorate a biscuit. They could be given white, red and green frosting, writing gel, sprinkles, etc.

## Gingerbread House

$1 / 2$ cup butter
2/3 cup brown sugar
$1 / 2$ cup molasses
1 egg
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp cinnamon
$21 / 2$ cups flour


Cream together the butter and brown sugar.
Mix in molasses, egg, baking soda, cinnamon, and flour.
Spread onto a cookie sheet to about $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ thickness.
Bake at 350 degrees for about 10 minutes or until done.
When cool, cut into 6 rectangles. Use icing to glue the house together.
Decorate with sweets, sprinkles, candy sticks etc.

## Healthy Fruit kebabs

Using fruit such as bananas, strawberries, raspberries, mandarines etc. Cut into small chunks or segments and place 3 different pieces of fruit on a skewer.

## Dips

Cut up carrots, cucumber, celery, red peppers, cauliflower into strips. Buy or make some dips.

## ICT

In England there is an ICT target that involves spreadsheet modelling therefore you could integrate this into your planning and tell the children that they have $£ 30$ to buy the food for a Christmas class party. The children could research costs, make spreadsheets and make the food for the party (the scheme of work for this will be available on the website).

## Warning !!

The recipes above are examples of activities you can complete with the children. Christmas parties often take place during the last week of school before the Christmas break when the staff are exhausted and the children are tired and excited. Therefore the last thing you probably want to do is cook, so asking parents to contribute food is the much easier option. If you have mums, dads or nans who would like to come in and cook with the children then it will be something the children will enjoy and benefit from.

