

**Suggested integrated unit of work for SESE
first/second class**

Theme: Christmas

History:

Christmas customs have old origins.

Geography:

Christmas customs come from many countries.

Science:

Light up the darkness.

Strands:

Myself and my family
Story

Strand units: Feasts and festivals in the past
When my Grandparents were young

Objectives:

Explore and discuss the origins and traditions of some common festivals: giving of presents; feasts of traditional food; Origin of carols, cards, trees and mistletoe, wren boys

Explore and record aspects of the lives of people when his/her grandparents were young-how older generations celebrated Christmas
Stories of Santa

Skills:

Time and chronology
Change and continuity
Using evidence; empathy

Strands:

Human Environments
Natural Environments

Strand units: People and places in other areas.
Weather

Objectives:

Become familiar with some aspects of the lives of people and especially of children in Ireland, Europe and other areas: the places of origin of our Christmas customs.

Identify ways in which weather influences the lives of people: what we do to keep warm and light up the

Dark days

Skills:

Sense of place
Sense of space
Maps, globes and pictures

Strands:

Energy and forces
Strand units: Light, Heat

Magnetism and Electricity

Objectives:

Recognise that light comes from different sources: Christmas fairy lights and their colours; candles

Become aware of different sources of heat. Identify some household appliances that use electricity.

Become aware of the dangers of electricity.

Skills:

Questioning
Observing
Predicting
Analysing

Select approaches and methodologies: active learning, use of the environment, talk and discussion, photographs, ICT, interview

Establish children's ideas and design lessons: Make "Christmas Trees" from twigs and make the decorations; design and make Christmas cards, wren boy costumes,

Assessment: Teacher observation, children's work and projects