

## The Twelve Days of Christmas

*The activity can be adapted to suit students from any grade and is only limited to the imagination. The following suggestions would be appropriate for Stage 3 and can either be used as investigation starters or activity task cards.*

Resources Required:

A copy of the lyrics of "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

The book "The Twelve Days of Christmas" (There are several versions available)

Price Lists

Other resources as required, eg. shopping catalogues

Possible Investigations starters/Task cards

Teaching/Learning Activities:

- 1) Read the book/lyrics or listen to the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas"
- 2) Discuss how the gift giver has to increase the number of gifts to his true love each day.
- 3) Provide students with a price list (this can be adapted according to the ability of the group)
- 4) At this point students can be asked to investigate the cost of the gifts, turning the activity into an open-ended investigation, or, specific questions can be posed to the students.

Examples of possible questions are:

- a) What is the total number of gifts given?
- b) Is there an easy way to work this out?
- c) What is the total cost of the gifts?
- d) If the department store was holding a pre-Christmas sale and offered a 15% discount for all purchases, what would the new cost be? (This does not include performers, maids, lords etc)
- e) What if the discount offered only applied to live animals?
- f) The maids give a 10% when booked for more than two consecutive days. What would their new fee be?
- g) The musicians charge a 10% Goods and Service tax and this must be added to the total cost.
- h) How many people arrive at the true love's house on the twelfth day?
- i) What would it cost to feed all the people and the animals? (Internet would come in handy here!)
- j) Use some Christmas shopping catalogues to replace the gifts with something more appropriate for a modern true love and calculate the cost.
- k) Re-write the lyrics to fit your new list of gifts.

## GIFT PRICE LIST

GIFT	Cost \$
A partridge in a pear tree	102.50
One turtle dove	58.00
One French hen	5.00
One calling bird	79.00
A simple gold ring	76.50
One goose a-laying	25.00
One swimming swan	300.00
A milkmaid hired for 1 hour	8.50
One lady dancing	456.41
One Lord a-leapin'	392.14
One Piper piping	146.78
One Drummer drumming	145.73

