



Christmas Charades

A Holiday twist on a classic party game.

For 4+ players divided into 2 teams

Instructions

1. Cut out cards and place facedown in a pile. Or fold in half and place in a hat or bag.
2. On your turn pick a card and don't let your team see what is on it.
3. Other team starts the timer for 2 minutes (or other decided upon time limit). Try to get your team to guess what's on your card by using actions (no speaking or spelling!)
Commonly used actions are explained below.

Scoring

Scoring can be by the most correct guesses, kept track of by a tally, or by recording the amount of time it takes to get to a correct guess and then adding up the times at the end of the game. The shortest amount of time taken, wins!

Charade Actions and Their Meanings

Symbols for Categories

There are 6 topics that the items to be guessed will fall under. It is good to decide in advance so that everyone knows what the symbol will be for these categories. Here are some suggestions:



Songs-Place your hand on your heart and open your mouth like you are singing with the other hand extended with an open palm.



Place-Hold one palm flat facing upwards. Use the index finger of your other hand to point down into the palm.



Movie-Pretend to look through the lens of a camera and crank your hand as you turn the movie reel.



Person-Use two hands to go straight down and then as an hour glass shape to indicate people.



Object-Hold your hands next to each other in a cupping shape as if you are holding something.



Well Known Phrases-pretend to be typing or writing



Charade Actions and Their Meanings

Continued

Act out the symbol of the topic (from previous page) and then hold up fingers to indicate the number of words in the word or phrase being acted out. The people guessing would say something like, "person, 2 words."

Next, the actor should decide which word they will portray first and again hold up a finger indicating which word it is and the guessers would say, "First word", or "Third word."

Multi-syllable words can be broken up. If the actor wants to act out a certain syllable, he taps out the number of syllables on his forearm, first by telling how many syllables, (3 fingers against the forearm means 3 syllables), then after they guessing players say 3 syllables, the actor places the number against the forearm indicating which syllable they will act out, thus the guessers would say, "3 syllables, 1st syllable."

Indicate that something sounds like something else by tugging gently on your earlobe.

To indicate a small word, the player holds up her thumb and forefinger in a small inch apart manner so that those guessing can say words like "a", "the", "it", and so forth.

If players guess the correct base of a word, but the word needs to be lengthened by adding "ing" or some other suffix, the actor can suggest lengthening the word by drawing hands apart, as if pulling a string.

When someone makes a correct guess, the actor points and that person with one hand and touches his or her nose with the other hand's index finger to indicate "on the nose!"

More Tips

Decide as a group before starting what some signs will be for common words, (such as Christmas), before the game begins. This will be helpful with younger children especially.

Some of the items on the lists are more difficult than others. We have starred the more difficult ones so that you can decide to use them or not with younger players, or save them for a more experienced crowd.



Merry Christmas



Peace on Earth



Happy Holidays



***Glad Tidings of
Great Joy**



***To All A Goodnight**



***Kiss Me Under
the Mistletoe**



Jingle Bells



**Rudolph the Red
Nosed Reindeer**



Silent Night



Joy to the World



***Rockin' Around
the Christmas
Tree**



**Frosty the
Snowman**



***O Come All Ye
Faithful**



**Angels We Have
Heard On High**



***Walking in a
Winter
Wonderland**



Let It Snow



**Santa Claus is
Coming to Town**



***O Holy Night**



***What Child is
This?**



***All I Want For
Christmas is You**



***All I Want For
Christmas is My
Two Front Teeth**



***I Want a
Hippopotamus
for Christmas**



**We Wish You a
Merry Christmas**



Santa Claus



Mrs. Claus



The Grinch



***Ebenezer
Scrooge**



***Bob Cratchet**



Baby Jesus



Angel



Shepherd



***Wisemen**



***Kris Kringle**



Elves



***Saint Nicholas**



***Ghost of
Christmas Past**



Tiny Tim



Mary



***Jack Frost**



The North Pole



***Santa's
Workshop**



**Grandma's
House**



The Chimney



The Mall



***The Island of
Misfit Toys**



Christmas Town



***Christmas Tree
Lot**



***Bethlehem**



***City Sidewalks**



***A Charlie Brown
Christmas**



***White
Christmas**



A Christmas Story



Elf



***It's A Wonderful
Life**



***The Bishop's Wife**



***Christmas in
Connecticut**



***The Mistletones**



***Holiday Inn**



***A Muppet
Christmas Carol**



Christmas Tree



Ornament



***Gingerbread House**



Reindeer



***Santa's Sleigh**



***Nativity Scene**



Christmas Stocking



Gifts



Wrapping Paper



Candy Cane



Star



Snowflake



Garland



Candle



Mistletoe



***Holly and Ivy**



***Fruitcake**



***Figgy Pudding**



***Sugar Plums**



Hot Cocoa



Wreath



Bells



***"You'll Shoot Your
Eye Out!"**