



December – Book of the Month

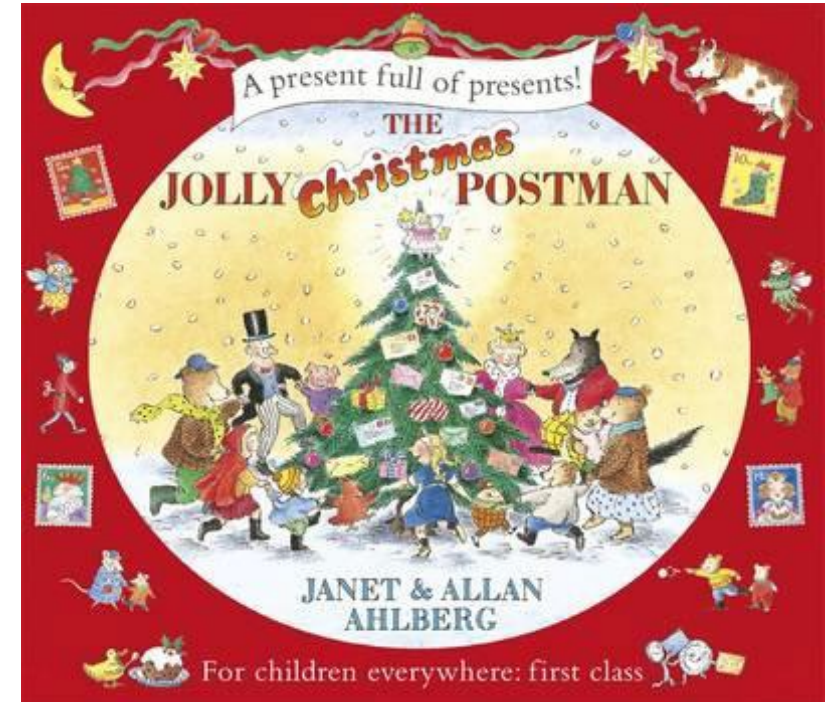
“The Jolly Christmas Postman” by Janet & Allan Ahlberg

For Ages: 2 – 8 years +

Great because:

- Kids love pulling out all the letters, so they pay attention for longer.
- Contains small puzzles to help develop problem solving skills.
- Links in lots of different fairy tales so you can talk about who belongs in what story.
- Lots of pictures so you can talk about what is happening.
- Make your own post box from an empty box and play posting games. Develop early writing and drawing skills when creating your own ‘letters.’

Can’t find this book? Choose a book about Christmas from the library



Any questions about Child Development or want more information on these ideas?
Contact **Bunbury Community Health** for more information on 08 9795 2888 or email us at:
WACHS-SWPHHudsonRdAdmin@health.wa.gov.au





December – Activity of the Month

Writing Letters to Santa



You'll need:

- Paper
- Favourite Pencils
- Santa's address – **Mr and Mrs Claus
Santa Claus Lane
THE NORTH POLE**

For Ages: 2 – Adult

Great because:

- Children (and adults!) of all ages can join in this activity.
- You can talk about different things children don't know a lot about such as the snow and North Pole, elves, reindeer.
- Have children draw if they are too young to write.
- When you are writing with young children, ask them what they want to write, and read it back to children, so they can follow along.
- Great for literacy skills – if a child doesn't know how to spell a word help by sounding out words. What sound can you hear at the start of 'doll?'
- Have your children trace words such as 'Santa' if they are unable to write on their own.
- Encourage older children to help younger children.
- Make an event – teach children how to post letters. Put the letter in an envelope, address the letter, put on a stamp and post at the Post Office!

Handy Hint: Look up Letters to Santa on the Australia Post Website for some great letter templates, and how to post your letter to Santa!

Any questions about Child Development or want more information on these ideas?
Contact **Bunbury Community Health** for more information on 08 9795 2888 or email us at:
WACHS-SWPHHudsonRdAdmin@health.wa.gov.au





December – Toy of the Month

Making a Christmas Tree Decoration

For Ages: 6 months – Adult

Great because:

- Everyone can get involved – children of all ages and adults.
- Good for following instructions – use ‘first, next and then’ when instructing. Older children can have harder instructions, younger children can have easier instructions.
- Teach colour and shape to your children.
- Practice verbs – cutting, gluing, drawing.
- A decoration for the tree or house during Christmas.
- A great present for family or friends.
- Practice singing Christmas songs while making your decorations – children of all ages love singing, and a good way to encourage little ones language development.
- Talk about textures of items you are putting on – smooth, rough, spiky, soft, hard and think of other things that are e.g. soft (baby chicken, blanket, feather).
- Use items from around the house – old buttons, ribbon, sequins, pencils, paddle pop sticks, material, old clothes, paper.



Any questions about Child Development or want more information on these ideas?
Contact **Bunbury Community Health** for more information on 08 9795 2888 or email us at:
WACHS-SWPHHudsonRdAdmin@health.wa.gov.au

