



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



## Infants Activity Pack

Week 14-Term 1

### Musical Instruments

Some of the musical instruments used in a parang band are:



Mandolin



Cello



Tamborine



Guitar



Chac chac



Violin



Toc-toc



In the weeks leading up to Christmas, parang bands would walk through the streets in their communities, visiting the homes, singing and playing their music.

People would excitedly greet them with smiling faces, welcome them with open doors and serve food and drinks. Some of the foods served to the parranderos were:



Pastelle



Black cake



Ham



Sorrel



Ginger beer



### Alegria Alegria

Happiness



#### What is Parang?

**Parang** is music played around Christmas time in Trinidad and Tobago. The season begins in September.

Parang music is of **Spanish** origin, brought to this country by people who came from **Venezuela**.

The music brings people together and make them happy and joyous as they sing, dance and celebrate during the Christmas season.

### The Birth of Jesus Christ

Many **parang** songs tell of the **nativity** (birth of Jesus Christ).

At several churches, for the **opening of the crèche**, songs that tell about the nativity are sung.



### Parang music brings joy and happiness

People are usually very happy as they sing and dance to the music.

Some people even play the music and sing along as they clean, decorate and prepare their homes for Christmas.



#### The Parang Band



**Parang bands** are called "**parranderos**".

The band has a lead singer with many background singers. They are always beautifully dressed.

#### Daisy Voisin

We cannot talk about parang without recognizing the **Queen of parang**, the late **Daisy Voisin**.

Daisy Voisin was born at Carapal, a village in Erin on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1942. She was the lead singer of the **La Divina Pastora Parang Band**.

She was awarded the **National Humming Bird Silver Medal** in 1988.

Many of the songs she wrote and sung are played at Christmas time such as "**Alegria Alegria**".

Get your parent/guardian to play this song for you.



La Divina Parang band

Daisy Voisin made the town of **Siparia** her home and spent much of her life there. Several tributes can be seen in her honour around the town.



Ask your parent/guardian to take you to see these tributes.



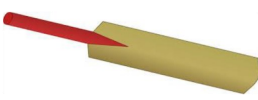
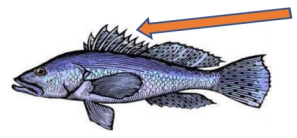



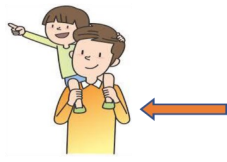

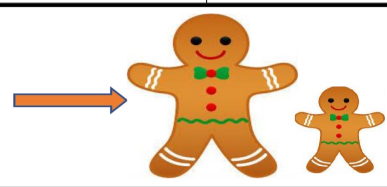


Revision of vowel sounds a, i

Infant 1

Shapes Around Me

Colour the word that is the name of the picture.

	
bat bit	fan fin
	
ham him	ram rim
	
pan pin	dad did
	
hat hit	bag big



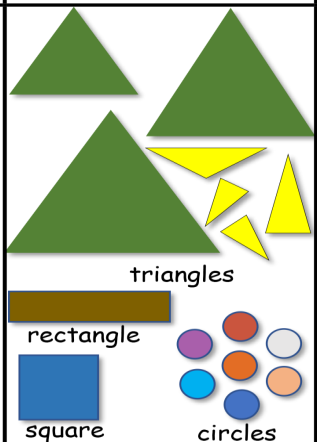

Sight Words Revision

Circle the word that is the same as the word in the first box. Row one is done for you.


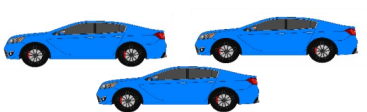



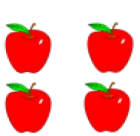

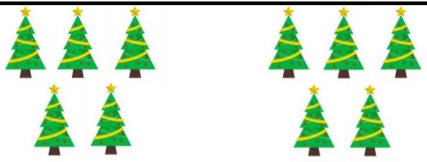
it	is	in	it
see	see	set	sea
to	at	top	to
she	he	she	me
are	ate	are	arm
we	we	the	be

Let's use solids and plane shapes to make Christmas art.

Let an adult help you with the cutting and sticking of materials.

Instructions	Materials	Object
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get an empty paper roll.</li> <li>Get a paper cone and cut to fit the top of the roll.</li> <li>Cover roll and cone with red kite paper or paint them in red.</li> <li>Stick roll and cone together.</li> <li>Decorate using cotton wool, buttons, beads, crayons etc.</li> <li>Make other Christmas objects using solid shapes.</li> </ol>	 <p>paper rolls cones kite paper cotton wool buttons</p>	 <p>Santa Claus</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cut out shapes as shown: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>green and yellow triangles</li> <li>brown rectangle</li> <li>blue square</li> <li>circles of different colours</li> </ul> </li> <li>Stick the plane shapes together to make a Christmas tree.</li> <li>Make other Christmas objects using the plane shapes.</li> </ol>	 <p>triangles rectangle square circles</p>	 <p>Christmas Tree</p>











Write the numeral and number name for each set of objects. One is done for you.

 <p>six presents</p>	<p>6</p>	 <p>_____ cars</p>
 <p>_____ bulbs</p>		 <p>_____ cupcakes</p>
Add the number of objects in both sets. The first one is done for you.		
 <p>1 add 3 equal 4</p>		 <p>4 add 5 equal _____</p>
 <p>4 add 1 equal _____</p>		 <p>5 add 5 equal _____</p>

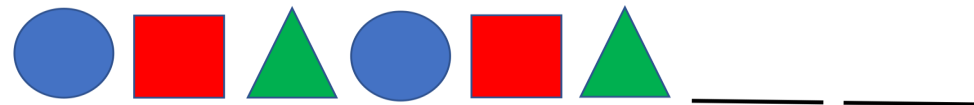
Revision Singular and Plural Infant 2

Repeating Patterns

Add 's' to make these more than one.

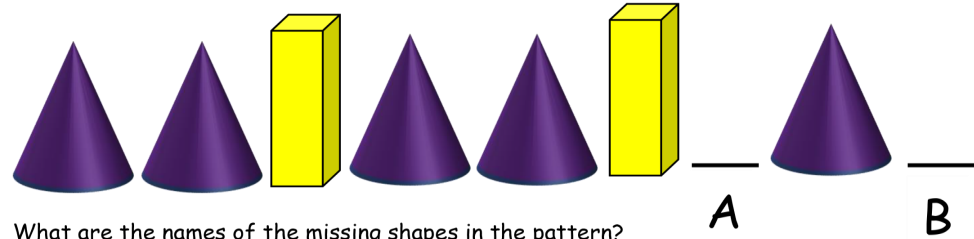
 one <u>gift</u>	 five <u>gifts</u>
 one <u>bell</u>	 three _____
 one <u>santa</u>	 three _____
 one <u>star</u>	 two _____
 one <u>stocking</u>	 four _____

The repeating pattern below is made with plane shapes.



Draw, colour and name the next 2 shapes in the pattern.

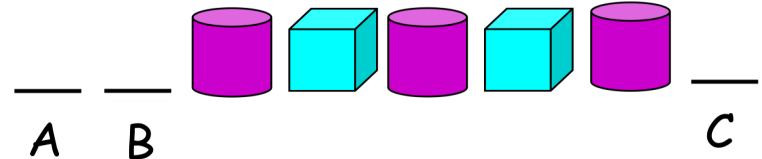
Here is a repeating pattern with solids.



What are the names of the missing shapes in the pattern?

A → \_\_\_\_\_ B → \_\_\_\_\_

Can you give the names of the missing shapes in this pattern?

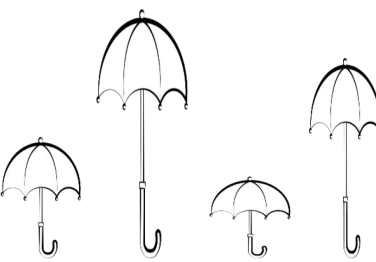

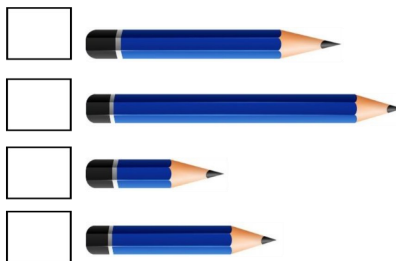



A → \_\_\_\_\_ B → \_\_\_\_\_ C → \_\_\_\_\_

Now practice on your own to make repeating patterns using different shapes.

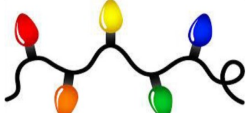





Comparing and Ordering Length

Write 1, 2, 3 or 4 in each box to order the objects by length. Use 1 for the object with the shortest length and 4 for the object with the longest length.

	
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

Revision of Long Vowel Sounds

Draw lines to match the words with the long vowel sounds to the correct pictures.

bow	•	•	
cane	•	•	
lights	•	•	
sleigh	•	•	
tree	•	•	
wreath	•	•	





### Modern Parang music



Many people also mix parang music with calypso, soca and chutney and create new music by adding a few Spanish words. Other popular parang bands include:



The Lara Brothers Parang Band



Alicia Jaggasar and Los Alumnos de San Juan



San Jose Serenaders



Los Tocadores



Sharlene Flores with Flores de San Jose

Do you know any of these singers and their songs?

Every year the tradition is taught to children and a competition is held for primary school children.

Winner of the National Primary School's Parang Competition



Sancouche Preschool & Primary School Parang Festival



Thank you to NALIS and our wonderful friends and family, who continue to share their photos and knowledge with the Ministry of Education. Thank you also Darren John Dyer, members of the Sancouche Pre & Primary School Parang Festival 2019 and Mikael Diaz for making our final Infants Activity Pack for the term a successful one.

The Christmas season is a special time for many in Trinidad and Tobago. People enjoy Christmas their own way. They spend time with family and friends, go to church and exchange gifts. Remember that Christmas is about spreading peace, love and joy.

## Merry Christmas



Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. Some of the most beautiful songs are heard at Christmas time. Here is a popular children's song:



### AROUND MY CHRISTMAS TREE

Lyrics by Lennox Grey (local songwriter)



Laughing children tug at Mr Santa  
Teddy bears and dollies saying mama  
The fragrance of black fruitcake and red wine,  
We'll toast to a special friend of mine  
His name is Jesus

CHORUS: Come little children,  
Round my Christmas tree  
We'll have a very merry time  
We'll sing, dance and play  
'Til the break of New Year's Day  
We'll listen to the church bells chime

Christmas presents come with season's greetings  
There will be such peaceful, loving feelings  
Such feelings should not come just once a year  
To have, to cherish and to share

There's a light that shines on every flower  
And it shines every minute, every hour  
And always guides me on my way  
This light was born on Christmas Day  
His name is Jesus

CHORUS

You can go to this link to listen to this song:

<https://youtu.be/RXq4rvFtXL8>

### Activity

Colour the musical instruments. These are "maracas" or "chac-chacs".

