



12 days of Christmas Investigation

You will need:

- the lyrics of the song
- an investigation card (below) for each group. There are investigations at two levels.

*On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me...
...a partridge in a pear tree*



- On the first day 1 present was sent. On the second day 2 presents were sent. That makes 3 presents altogether.
- If this continued, on the third day 3 presents, fourth day 4 presents, fifth day 5 presents....
- How many presents in total would have been sent by the end of the twelfth day?

• [Adding small numbers up to 99, problem solving]

*On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me...
...a partridge in a pear tree*



- On the first day 1 present was sent. On the second day 2 presents were sent...**and** the first present was sent again (if you read the words carefully) that makes 4 presents altogether.
- If this continued, on the third day 3 french hens, 2 turtle doves and 1 partridge are sent, so another 6, now making 10 in total.
- How many presents in total would have been sent by the end of the twelfth day?

• [Adding small numbers up to 999, problem solving]

Teachers' tip: buy a pack of 6 Christmas cards with illustrations of the '12 Days of Christmas' and fix the investigation cards to the reverse and laminate.

See Teachers' Notes to look at ways children may approach this problem.