

## Christmas Activity

This activity is a combination of:

Addition and Subtraction - Students select and apply appropriate strategies for addition and subtraction with numbers of any size; and  
Multiplication and Division - Students select and apply appropriate strategies for multiplication and division.

In this activity students are asked to calculate how long it would take them to complete that which Santa Claus is able to complete in one night.

For this activity statistics from the U.S Bureau of Statistics (<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/world.html>) have been used but any World Population site could be used. According to this site there are currently 6,528,051,823 people in the world of which:

Population	Age
615,842,173	0 to 4
597,797,620	5 to 9
593,180,727	10 to 14
607,758,028	15 to 19

Using these statistics students should be able to calculate how many children there are between 0 and 19 years of age to whom Santa would deliver presents. Assuming that it would take a student 5 minutes to deliver each child's presents students can calculate how many life times they would take to perform Santa's single nights work as they do not possess his magical properties.

Total Number of Children Receiving Presents	
Time taken per Child	
Time in total (Children $\times$ 5)	
Number of Hours (Time $\div$ 60)	
Number of Days (Hours $\div$ 24)	
Number of Years (Days $\div$ 365)	
Number of Life Times (Years $\div$ 100)	

**Note:** This activity is not intended in any way to destroy the magic of Christmas for students and I apologise to any teacher who may find it offensive in any way.

