

Christingles



What is a Christingle?

A Christingle is made from an orange, red ribbon, four small sticks, dried fruits or sweets and a lit candle.

Christingle means 'Christ's Light'.

Christingles are used by Christians to celebrate Jesus as the Light of the World.

Christingles are usually used during church services and school assemblies during Advent.



History of Christingles

Christingles date back to 1747, when a minister in a church in Germany gave children a lighted candle with a red ribbon around it.

It wasn't until 1968 that Christingles were introduced into Anglican churches in England.



The first Christingle service, in 1968, raised money for the Children's Society charity.

What Do the Parts of the Christingle Represent?

Each part of the Christingle has an important meaning.

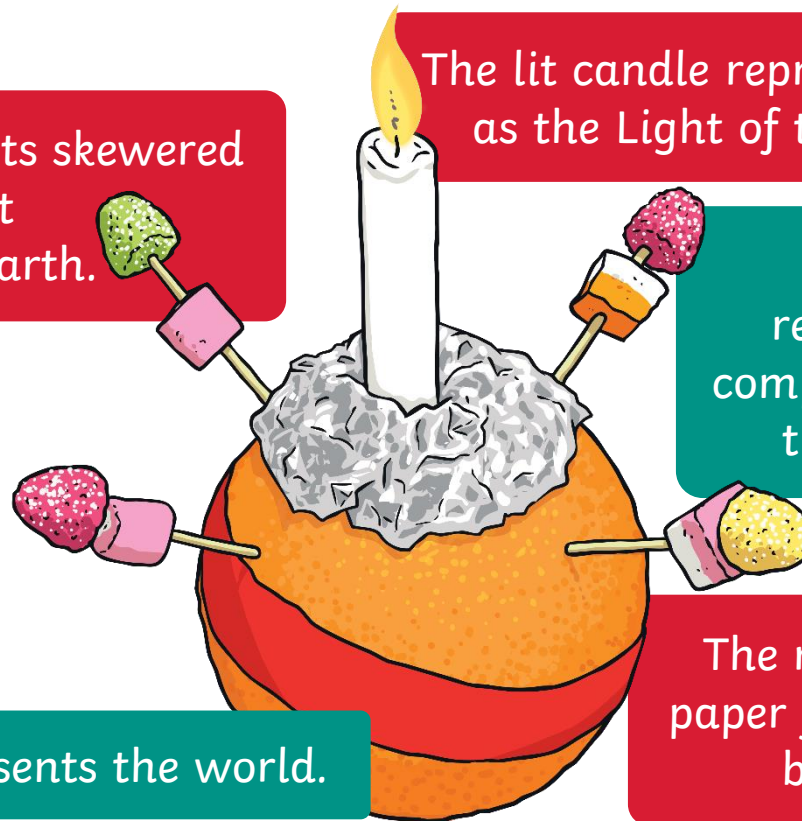
The fruits or sweets skewered on sticks represent the fruits of the Earth.

The lit candle represents Jesus as the Light of the World.

The four sticks represent the four compass directions and the four seasons.

The orange represents the world.

The red ribbon (or red paper frill) represents the blood of Jesus.



Christingle Services

Christingle services usually involve children and are held in many churches and schools during Advent.

Often the lights are turned off and the Christingles light up the room, reminding Christians that Jesus is the Light of the World.

Christingle services also remind Christians that Christmas is a time to remember Jesus and celebrate his birth.

Traditionally, Christingle services are held in churches on the Sunday before Christmas or on Christmas Eve.



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