



Linking Generations
Northern Ireland

Christmas 2023

10 Ideas to connect generations!

Let's have fun creating multigenerational connections this Christmas that can last the whole year through!

LQNI's 10 top ways of connecting individuals or organisations! Perfect for schools, community groups, older people's settings!...

***Top Tip!** Always approach your local Care Home, Sheltered Housing Scheme or Older persons' group or school BEFORE you plan to connect with them to make sure activities are suitable!*

- 1** **Arrange a Christmas Party** - sing carols & Christmas songs, play pass the parcel, make Christmas crafts, wear fancy dress!
- 2** **Organise a Christmas themed quiz/Bingo** - set up intergenerational teams, fun team names and give out prizes!
- 3** **Create and exchange Christmas Cards, gifts, letters** - visit your local older people's setting and distribute gifts, meet up with a local seniors group to exchange gifts, have tea, juice and festive snacks!
- 4** **Involve all ages in your Christmas Nativity/Activities** - Why not invite local older people and grandparents to your nativity? Or do a face to face or video performance for a local Care Home? Invite children and young people to attend your older peoples groups Christmas activities!
- 5** **Make Christmas Decorations or Festive Treats** - bunting, cards, hats, Christmas crackers, cookies, gingerbread men and compare your creations! Keep, exchange or share with others!



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6 **Reminiscence session** - Compare and contrast traditions of Christmas past and present! Swap stories, Christmas memories, favourite songs, food and best bits! Bring treasured items to Show & Tell! Share Your 'mantra' - favourite saying/advice for life or your Christmas wish for everyone/the world....

7 **Create a Christmas wishing tree** - decorate a large fir tree branch in a pot with labels or cut out shapes and hang with ribbon on branches. Write positive Christmas wishes and messages for others and sign your name. Deliver to a different age setting. Decorate a tree in the neighbourhood as above - or- Christmas sweet tree , decorate a fir branch in a pot with wrapped colourful sweets to deliver to a different age setting/ neighbour to enjoy.

8 **Host a mini Christmas Talent Show** - songs, poems, tricks, jokes, performing skills, etc. to share and watch together.

9 **Christmas rocks!** - Paint and decorate pebbles and stones with Christmas images and goodwill messages as an intergenerational group. Or why not take to a local care settings for display in garden or window sill (or inside) where residents can see and enjoy.

10 **Write your own Christmas Story**- Organise your participants into intergenerational groups. Create characters and get each group to write a section of the story e.g. the introduction - once upon a time, the middle and the end - expand as you please! Read the completed story out to the group or you could even record it to share!

Remember to always observe/ ask for feedback, comments, notice the impact and take photos with permission) during activities for promotion purposes and also to plan for future intergenerational engagements.

let's create some positivity & have fun!

Please share your activities & Photos with us on social media!!!



www.linkinggenerationsni.com

