

# Christmas Word Mining Game

## Instruction and Tip Sheet

Print out the game sheet and make as many common words as you can from "Christmas Tree". Write the words in the spaces provided.

This is good spelling practice for young children.

### Word Mining Tips

- Some people find it useful to rearrange the letters they have available in alphabetical order or grouped by consonants and vowels before they start mining.  
For example, if your word mining phrase is "Happy Birthday" you might find it useful to rearrange the letters:
  - alphabetically: **a a b d h h i p p r t y y**
  - OR
  - by consonants/vowels: **a a i y y b d h h p p r t**
  
- Talk to your children about using "rhymes" to help fill in more words. For example, if you find the word **Rat** (using "Happy Birthday" as our word mining example) encourage your children to replace the first letter (R) in Rat with some of the other consonants available to come up with **Bat, Hat, Pat, THat**

### Word Mining Rules:

- Words that require a capital letter are not allowed (names like David or Sally).
- Words that are pluralized simply by adding an "s" are not allowed (cats, dogs, owls) though their singular is allowed (cat, dog, owl).
- Words that require punctuation are not allowed (ex: can't, don't).
- Form words with as many letters as you like – 2 and 3 letter words ARE allowed.