

Parlour Games

No party is complete without some games – here are some that were actually played in the 19th century! Why not give these a go this Christmas?

You're Never Fully Dressed Without A Smile

Pick one person to be “it”. That person is the only one in the group who is allowed to smile. He/she can do anything they want to try and get someone to smile (as long as it does not involve physical contact). If they make someone else smile, that person becomes “it”. The last person to become “it”, who smiles last out of the group, is declared the winner.

Pass The Slipper

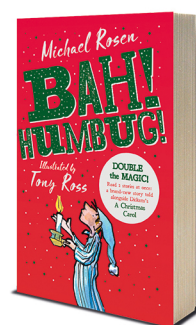
In Victorian times a slipper would have been used for this game, but any small item may be used.

Pick a player who stands in the centre of a circle formed by the other players. The player who stands in the middle must close their eyes and as they do so the slipper is passed from player to player behind their backs. When the person in the middle opens their eyes, the passing of the slipper immediately stops and the player must guess who holds the slipper. If they are correct, they change places, otherwise the player closes their eyes again and play continues.

Kim's Game

This is a simple memory game, named after Rudyard Kipling's novel *Kim*.

A tray is prepared containing a selection of small articles, preferably unrelated items. Everyone is given a minute to look at the tray and try to remember the contents. The tray is covered or removed, and everyone has to try to make a list of the objects. The person who remembers the most items wins.



Wordsearch

Hidden in the wordsearch below are some things that you would find at Christmas in the Victorian times. Can you find them all? You might be surprised at how similar it was to Christmas celebrations today.

P	P	U	D	D	I	N	G	B	H	C	A	H	H	L
C	R	A	C	K	E	R	S	J	G	U	F	Q	G	W
Y	O	E	X	M	H	F	N	R	T	Q	A	L	Z	W
Z	X	Z	C	Z	S	D	R	A	C	B	I	T	U	L
A	M	P	F	S	D	E	T	J	F	M	I	H	S	K
L	M	R	T	E	N	P	R	J	T	Z	J	B	Y	D
Z	F	F	W	T	U	R	K	E	Y	S	O	H	X	A
M	I	G	A	M	E	S	T	V	L	S	T	F	Y	N
G	A	P	M	X	Y	R	R	O	R	H	B	R	F	R
I	C	S	G	T	E	J	R	G	S	H	J	M	J	Q
O	M	X	Q	E	Z	A	I	D	S	W	U	A	S	E
Z	B	W	V	S	C	Y	D	Q	W	F	O	W	W	L
G	X	U	Q	D	I	K	O	N	Y	L	V	K	J	O
Y	F	P	U	M	B	D	D	S	T	C	Q	P	K	O
C	Q	G	O	B	I	O	Q	W	S	Z	M	C	H	C

CARDS
CAROLS

CRACKERS
GAMES

GIFTS
PUDDING

TREE
TURKEY

