



BIRMINGHAM'S

Frankfurt

CHRISTMAS MARKET

ACTIVITY PACK FOR SCHOOLS

VERSION-C SPECIAL



We hope that you will visit the Frankfurt Christmas Market to give the children in your care a taste of a real German Christmas tradition.

To improve access for children with special needs, detailed maps showing the location of steps and obstacles can be provided if required. If you want to use the toilets in the Council House, please print the confirmation email we sent you and show it at the entrance of the Council House. The project is supported by the stallholders, and special schools from Birmingham who have registered their visit with the International Division in advance (see below) can take advantage of free drinks and carousel rides for the children. As the free Carousel rides are limited in number and cannot be provided at weekends, it is essential to register with the International Division of Birmingham City Council (see below) as early as possible. The best time to visit the market is between 9am and 12am, as it tends to be less busy during these hours. If you wish to visit the Frankfurt Christmas Market and take advantage of any of the offers described, please book in advance by phoning 0121 303 2897.

Contents

Map of Europe

- A chance for children to see where Britain and Germany are by colouring in the countries on the map.

Flags

- Colour in the British and German flags. Can you think of any others?

Story

- The story of St. Nikolaus

Christmas Market Sensory Trail

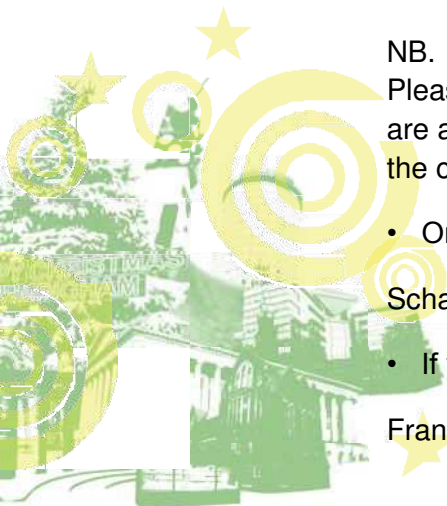
- See the decorations and unusual things on sale
- Hear the music all around the market
- Taste the hot chocolate (please register if you wish the children to try this)
- Smell the roast chestnuts
- Feel the movement of the carousel (please register by ringing 0121 303 2897 if you wish the children to try this)
- Colour in the pictures on the activity sheets with text for children to write over

NB. Stalls which sell gingerbread and biscuits often have samples for visitors to try. Please be aware that some of these products contain nuts or almond marzipan. You are advised to check with the stallholder before deciding whether it is appropriate for the children in your care to eat any of the samples provided.

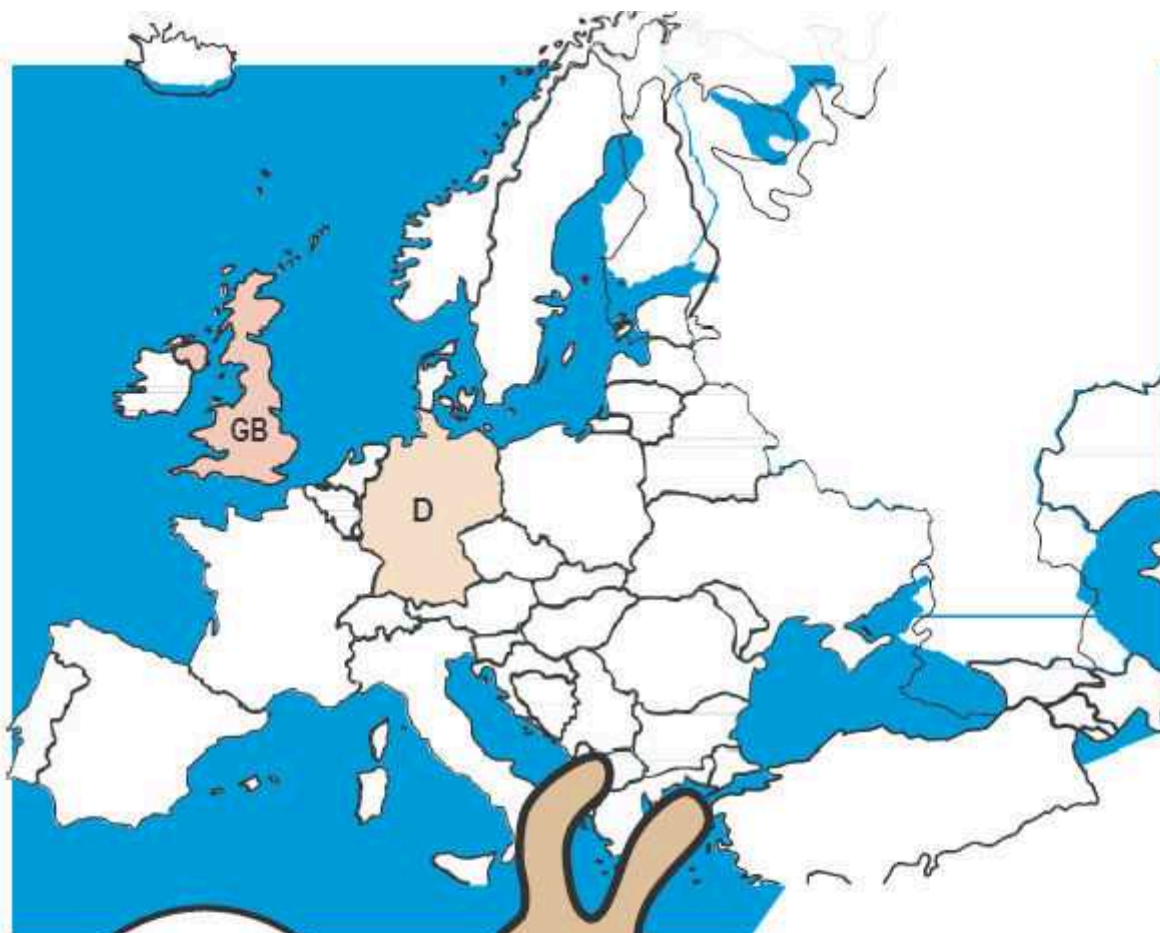
- Original pack written and designed by Marion Fleming-Froy and Christian Schaffrath, October 2003 (updated October 2018).

- If you have any queries or would like further information about the

Frankfurt Christmas Market, please contact Alexandra Schoerner on 0121 303 2897.



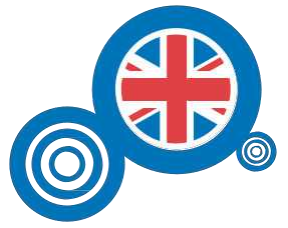
Map of Europe



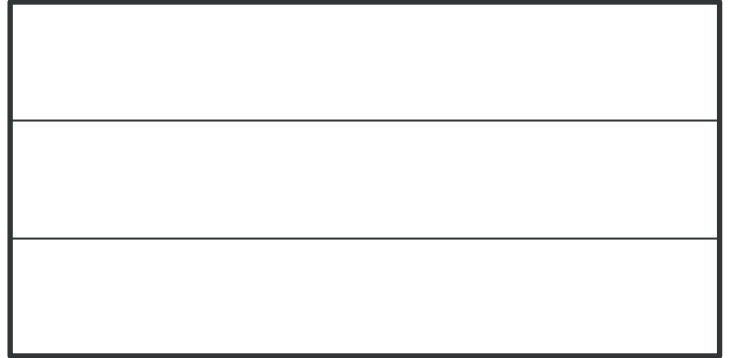
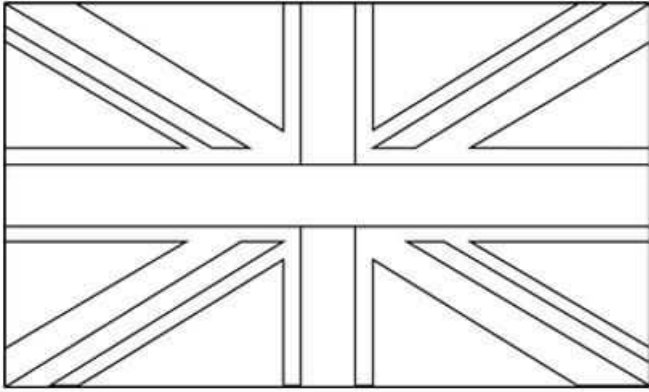
Frankfurt
is in Germany.
It is one of
Birmingham's
partner
cities.



Flags



Can you colour in the British and German flags?



Do you know any other flags?



Story Saint Nikolaus



On the evening of December 5th, children in Germany polish their shoes and place them outside their doors. During the night Saint Nikolaus comes and fills the shoes with sweets, fruits, nuts and small presents. When the children wake up on December 6th the gifts from Saint Nikolaus are there waiting for them.

Who is Saint Nikolaus?

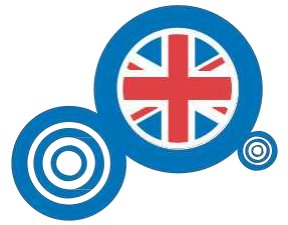
There are actually two saints with the name Nikolaus. One was the Abbot Nikolaus of Sion; Bishop of Pinara (nowadays in Turkey), and the other was the Bishop of Myra who died on December 6th 343. This is why Saint Nikolaus's day is on December 6th. Both men are said to have been very kind and gentle, especially to children. There are lots of legends about Saint Nikolaus. Here are two of the stories:

Once upon a time there was a man who had three daughters. The man was very poor and could not give his daughters a dowry. Without a dowry the daughters couldn't get married. At that time all girls were supposed to get married – what would they do if they couldn't? The man was very worried. The poor man had a neighbour called Nikolaus. Nikolaus felt very sorry for the man and his daughters. He wrapped up a gold nugget in a piece of cloth and one night secretly threw it through a window into his poor neighbours' house. Nikolaus then vanished.

1600 years ago there was a terrible famine in Asia Minor. Without enough food to eat lots of people died. Everyone was waiting for ships full of grain to arrive from Egypt so that they could make bread. On the way from Egypt to Asia Minor they were stopped by pirates. The pirates demanded gold and jewellery from the starving people before they would give them the grain. The hungry people gave the pirates all the gold and jewellery that they had but the pirates were very greedy and said that it wasn't enough. They threatened to take all the children away and sell them as slaves. Nikolaus saved the children from the pirates by taking all the gold and valuable objects out of his church and giving them to the pirates. The pirates then allowed the ships full of grain to be unloaded.



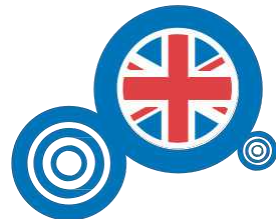
See



German Christmas
decorations have lots of
candles.

Deutsche
Weihnachtsdekoration hat
viele Kerzen.

Hear



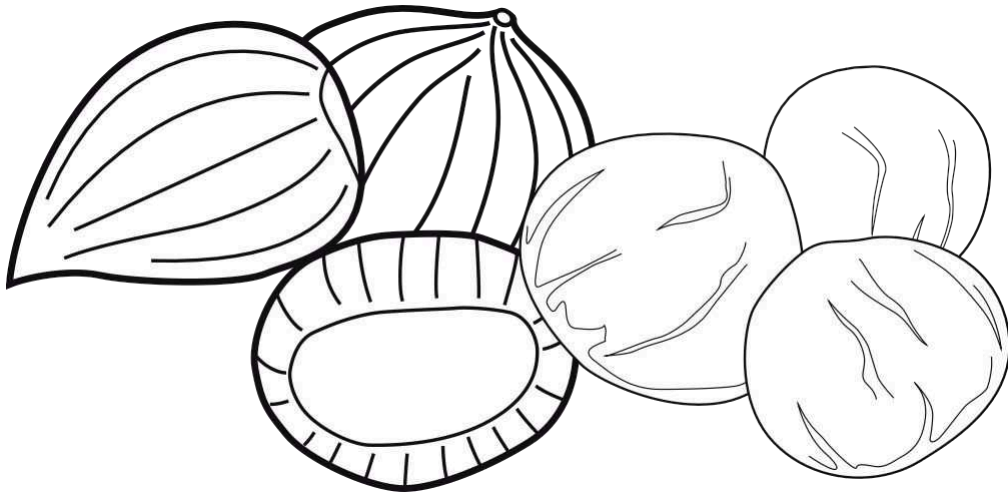
We can hear
Christmas music all
around the market.

Auf dem ganzen Markt
hören wir
Weihnachtsmusik.



Hot chocolate
is great when the
weather is cold.

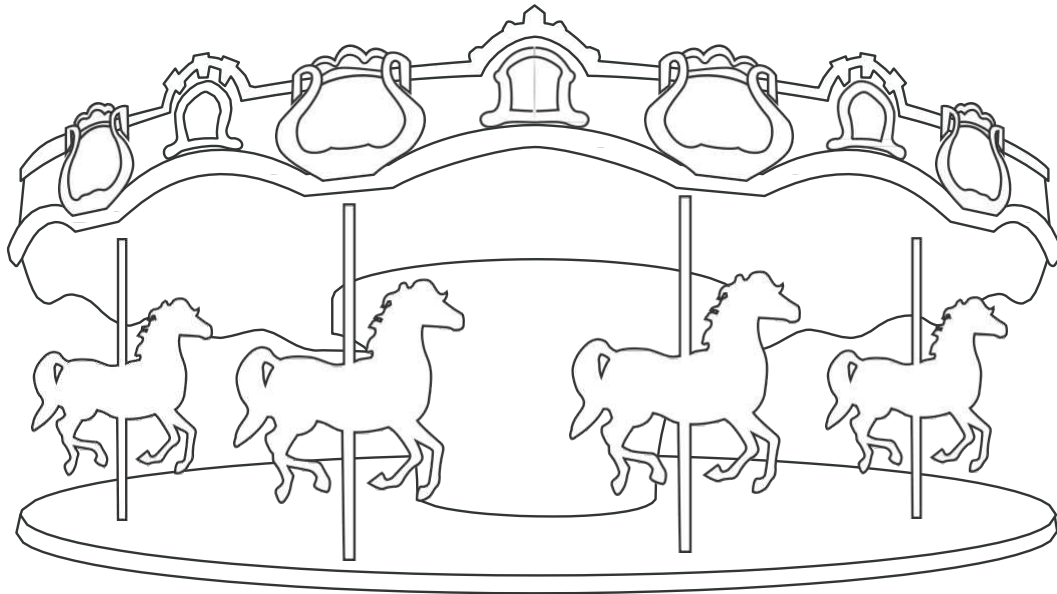
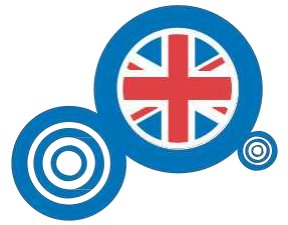
Heisse Schokolade
schmeckt besonders
bei kaltem Wetter.



At the market
we can smell
roast chestnuts.

Auf dem Markt riecht
es nach
Röstkastanien.

Feel



The carousel moves
up and down
and round and round.

Das Karussell bewegt
sich rauf und runter.