How to be Brilliant at

CHRISTMAS TIME

Val Edgar

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Contents

Introduction

Christmas in the primary classroom can be a busy, stressful time, with teachers juggling the demands of the National Curriculum / 5 – 14 Guidelines with time-consuming seasonal activities.

How to be Brilliant at Christmas Time has been written by a working primary teacher, who appreciates the need for Christmas activities that are great fun, easily administered and also worthwhile and relevant within the curriculum.

The majority of these photocopiable sheets involve **Language** or **Maths** activities. The **General** section includes religious and moral education, art and design and other curriculum areas.

Every sheet stands alone as a complete activity, or can be part of a mini-Christmas theme.

Some of the sheets work particularly well with pairs or groups, especially if enlarged:

Christmas pudding (page 8)
Co-ordinates (pages 11 and 12)
Colour codes (page 14)
Christmas tree pizza toasts (page 40)
Research (page 41)
Where in the world? (page 42)
Design (page 45)

Those sheets with a **challenge** offer a thought-provoking activity for the children:

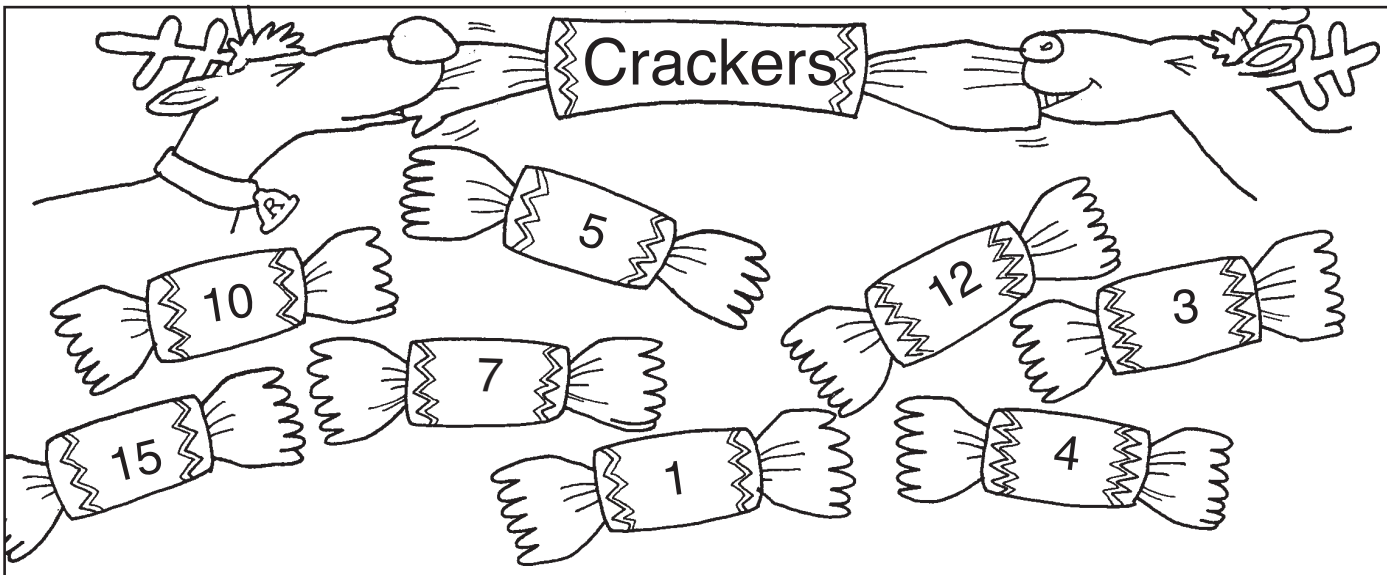
Crackers (page 5)
Symmetry (page 6)
Number codes (page 10)
Dot-to-dot (page 13)
Anagrams and puzzles (page 23)
The first Christmas card (page 27)
Light (page 37)
Where in the world? (page 42)

Several of the sheets encompass religious education. A mini-topic can be followed which develops familiarity with Advent and Christmas and the customs, symbols and story associated with it, as well as an understanding of the importance of Christian moral values:

The birth of Jesus (pages 31 and 32)
Story in pictures (page 33)
Celebrating (page 35)
Advent (page 36)
Light (page 37)
Christmas fives (page 39)
Research (page 41)
Poster (page 44)

The **Worksheet follow-ups** (page 46) offers extension activities for a selection of sheets, while the **Further ideas** (page 47) suggests some extra activities for the Christmas period.

Crackers



Pull three crackers to score 15. Which crackers? _____

Can you pull five crackers to score 15? _____

What is the smallest number of crackers you need to score 30? _____

Which crackers? _____

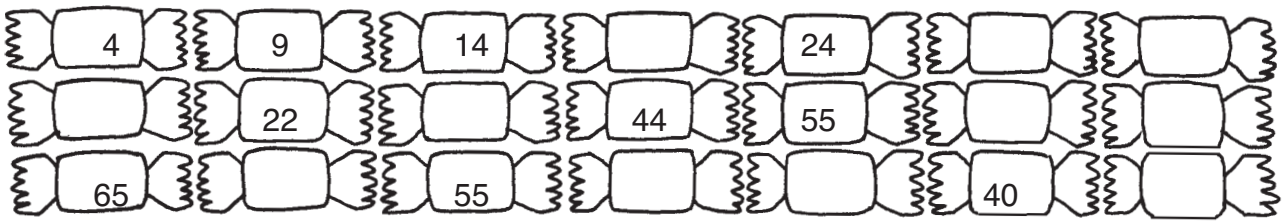
What is the highest possible score with six crackers? _____

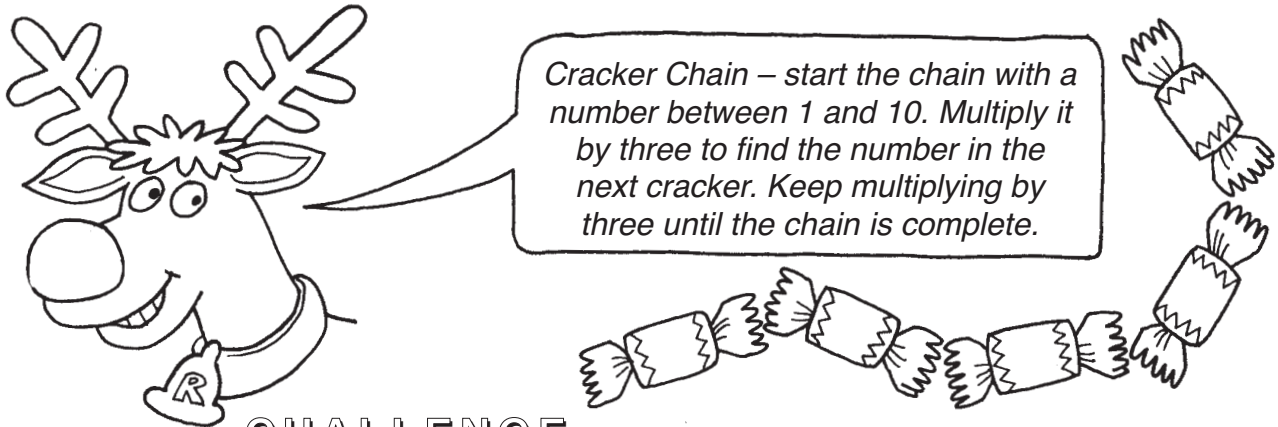
What is the lowest possible score with six crackers? _____

What crackers would you pull to make your age? _____

Your house number? _____

Finish the cracker lines:



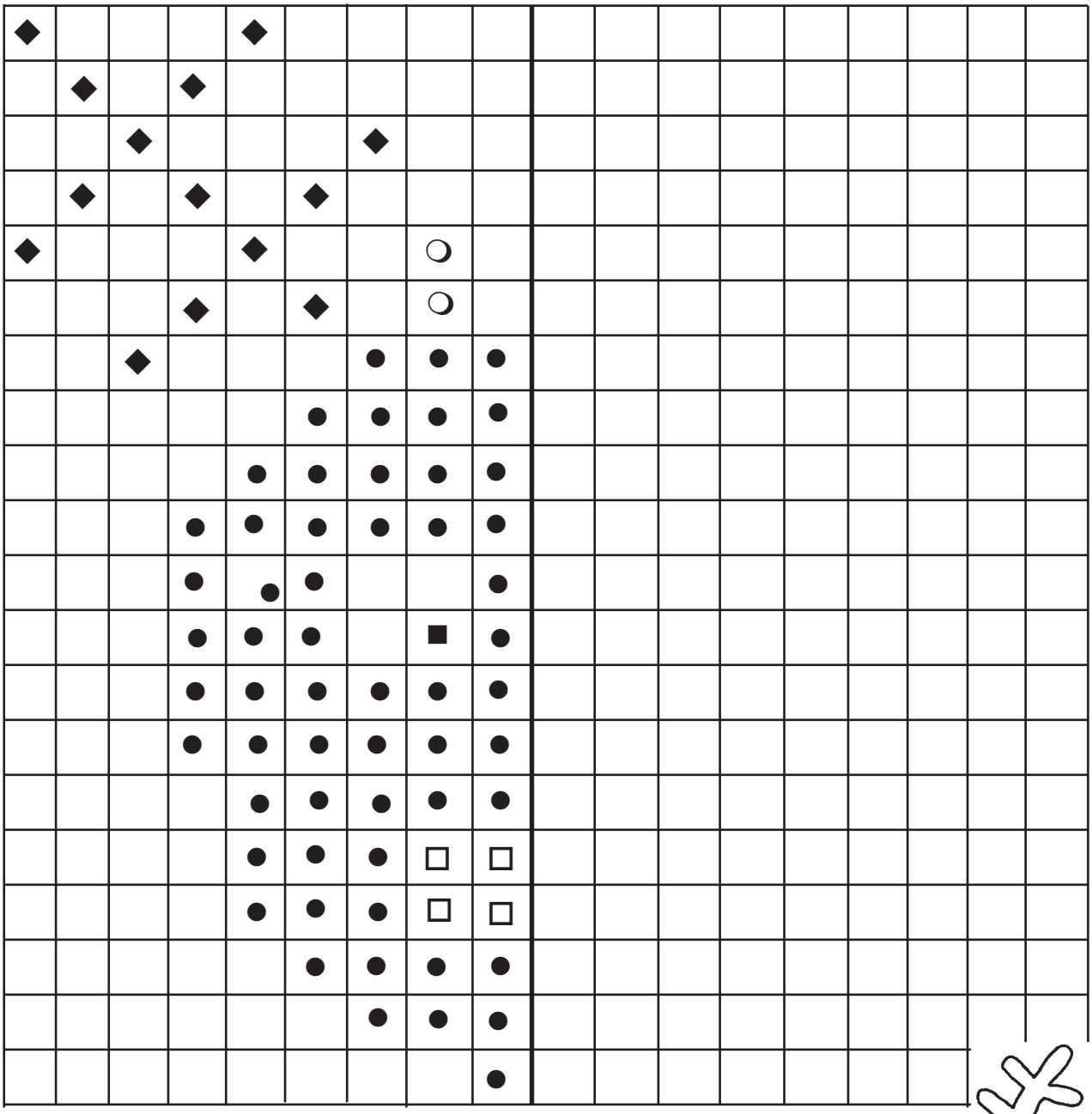


Cracker Chain – start the chain with a number between 1 and 10. Multiply it by three to find the number in the next cracker. Keep multiplying by three until the chain is complete.

CHALLENGE

Symmetry

Follow the key at the bottom of the page to colour the picture. Draw the other half to complete the face.



- ● light brown
- ◆ dark brown
- □ red
- ■ black
- ❍ pink

Quick sums

Cracker 1

3 x 6 =
2 + 10 =
14 – 9 =
30 ÷ 3 =
2 x 8 =
1/2 of 40 =
32 – 16 =
5 + 16 =
22 – 19 =
15 + 18 =
9 x 3 =
40 – 9 =
5 x 9 =
1/2 of 30 =
17 + 22 =
38 – 16 =
40 ÷ 5 =
2 x 8 =
18 ÷ 3 =
40 + 26 =

score = / 20

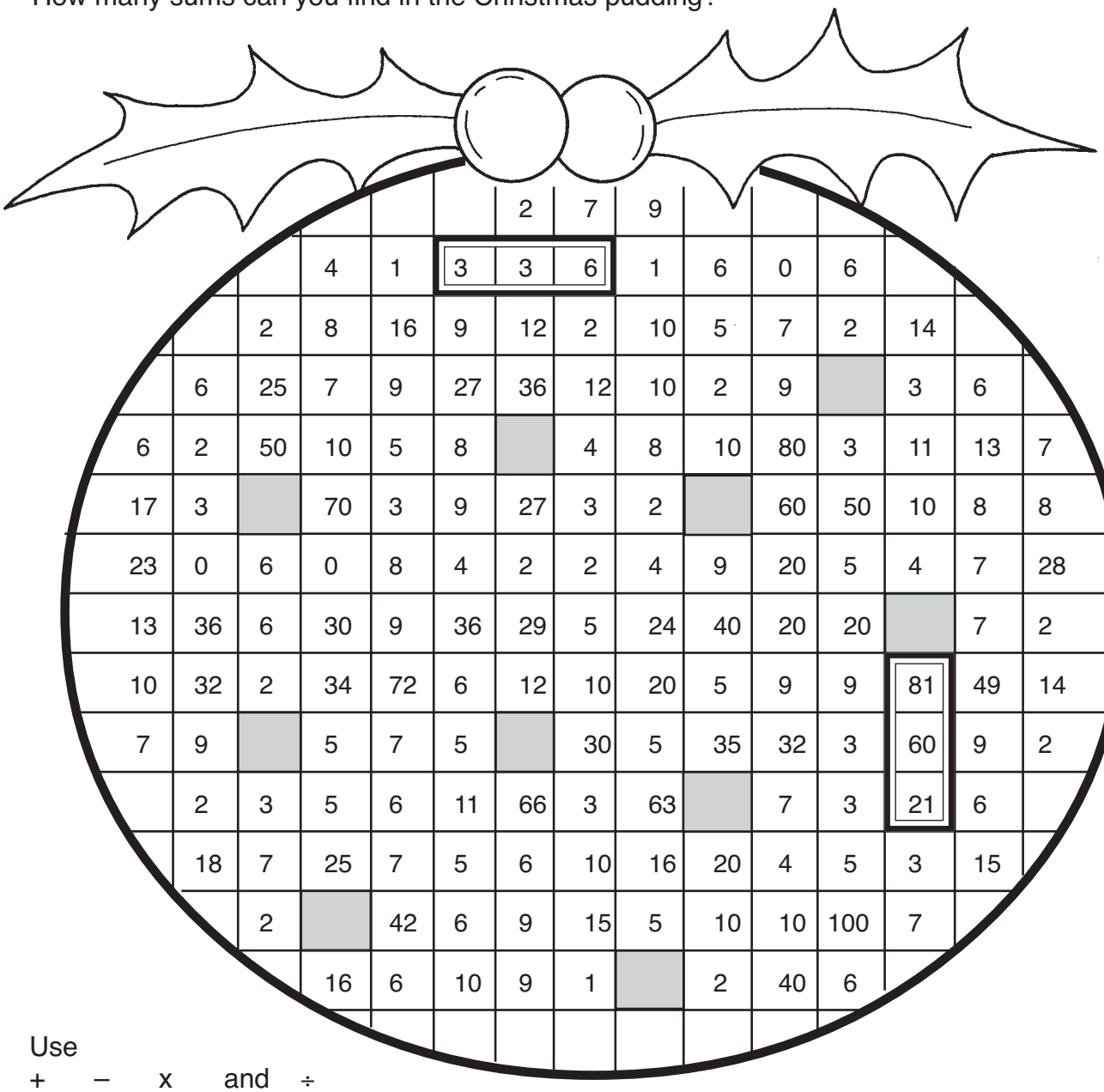
Cracker 2

4 x 8 =
20 + 19 =
28 ÷ 4 =
1/2 of 24 =
19 + 27 =
40 – 11 =
5 x 6 =
32 ÷ 4 =
3 x 9 =
22 – 9 =
1/2 of 16 =
3 x 4 =
36 + 19 =
90 ÷ 10 =
8 x 3 =
100 – 27 =
36 ÷ 4 =
20 + 16 =
1/2 of 42 =
10 x 8 =

score = / 20

Christmas pudding

How many sums can you find in the Christmas pudding?



					2	7	9						
		4	1	3	3	6	1	6	0	6			
	2	8	16	9	12	2	10	5	7	2	14		
6	25	7	9	27	36	12	10	2	9		3	6	
6	2	50	10	5	8		4	8	10	80	3	11	13	7
17	3		70	3	9	27	3	2		60	50	10	8	8
23	0	6	0	8	4	2	2	4	9	20	5	4	7	28
13	36	6	30	9	36	29	5	24	40	20	20		7	2
10	32	2	34	72	6	12	10	20	5	9	9	81	49	14
7	9		5	7	5		30	5	35	32	3	60	9	2
	2	3	5	6	11	66	3	63		7	3	21	6	
	18	7	25	7	5	6	10	16	20	4	5	3	15	
	2		42	6	9	15	5	10	10	100	7			
		16	6	10	9	1		2	40	6				

Use
+ – x and ÷
Write them below.

3 + 3 = 6
81 – 60 = 21

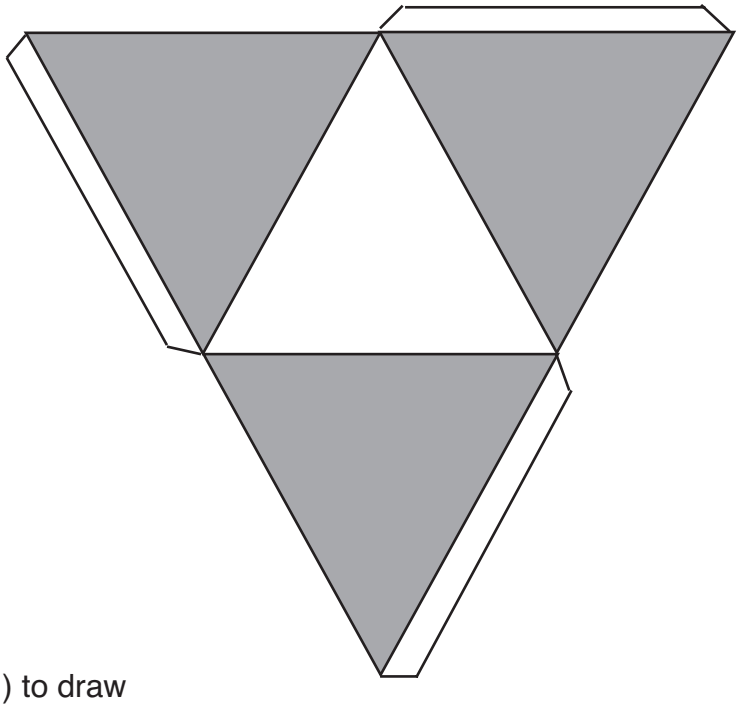
3D Christmas tree

You will need:

card (green)

3 equilateral triangles of different sizes to draw around

glue, scissors, string



Instructions

1. Use your smallest triangle (triangle 1) to draw the net of a triangular prism on a card (see above).

2. Draw larger nets for triangles 2 and 3.

3. Make a small hole in the middle of the base of net 1 and net 2, as shown in the diagram.

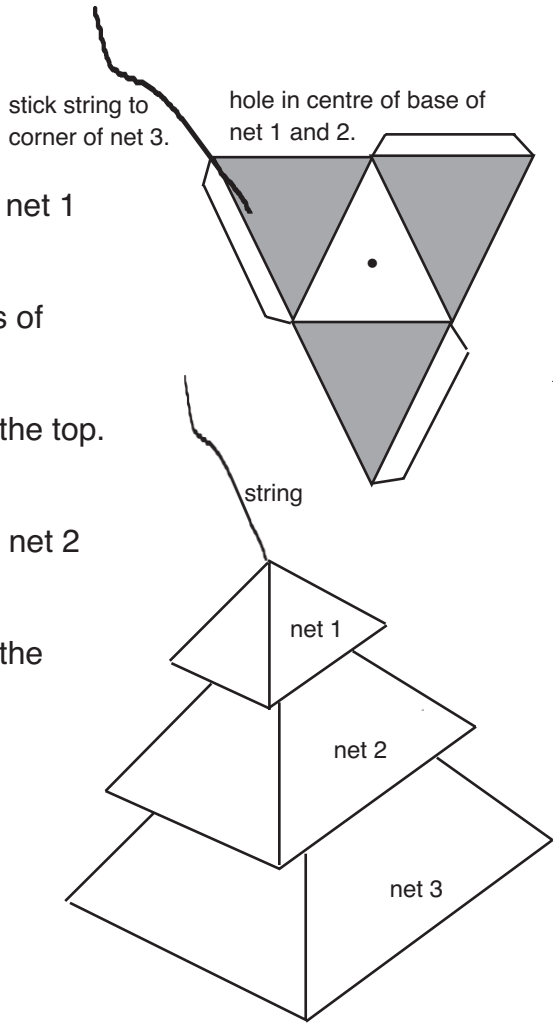
4. Stick a length of string on to one of the corners of net 3.

5. Fold up and stick net 3, so that the string is at the top. Thread the string through the hole in net 2.

6. Fold up and stick net 2. Thread the string from net 2 through the hole in net 1.

7. Fold up and stick net 1, so that the string is at the top.

8. Use the string from net 1 to hang up your tree. Decorate with paper decorations.



Number codes

R	P	A	N	Y	S	I	T	M	G	E	L	H	O	W
12	9	24	20	36	30	14	10	40	16	32	42	6	8	18

5 x 6 6 x 4 2 x 10 5 x 2 2 x 12
S

3 x 8 5 x 4 4 x 4 4 x 8 6 x 7

3 x 3 4 x 3 4 x 8 6 x 5 8 x 4 10 x 2 10 x 1

6 x 1 4 x 2 6 x 7 7 x 6 4 x 9

10 x 4 7 x 2 3 x 10 10 x 1 6 x 7 4 x 8 2 x 5 8 x 1 4 x 8

6 x 5 5 x 4 4 x 2 9 x 2 5 x 8 4 x 6 10 x 2

CHALLENGE

STAR

TINSEL

MANGER