

The Jackson Family Christmas

"Wake up!" I shouted, darting around. "It's Christmas. He's been!"

"What?" Mum and Dad grumbled, peeking out of one eye.

"Come on," I yelped. "They'll be down soon!"



Being a house mouse wasn't bad. We lived in the wall of the Jackson family's hallway. It was warm and near the kitchen where there was food. The best bit was watching humans! Most mice don't like humans because they're messy and spoil the countryside by building houses and roads. I'm not like other mice. I love humans.

"OK, we are here, Maurice. Can we go back to bed now?" moaned Mona. We waited under the TV to get a good view. The room looked amazing.

"What are those boxes for?" Dad asked, twitching his nose.

"Boxes?" I answered. "Dad, they're not boxes. They're presents!"

"Hang on," said Mum, "I saw them yesterday. There are more now!"

"Oh yes!" I smiled. "Father Christmas delivered them in the night!" Before anyone could ask how, the Jacksons arrived. Mrs Jackson, Mr Jackson, Jenny and Jamie spent all morning excitedly opening presents! Then, Mrs Jackson went into the kitchen, Mr Jackson played with Jamie on the new games console and Jenny tried on new clothes.

Later, other humans arrived with more presents and sat at the table. We watched safely, hidden behind a pot plant. It was a feast with turkey, potatoes, vegetables and more. They pulled crackers, wore paper hats and laughed. Then, out came a pudding which Mr Jackson set on fire.

After dinner, The Queen made a speech on TV and the afternoon was spent playing games and watching films. Mona and I hid to watch too.

As we arrived home we saw four little presents tied with ribbons at the end of our beds. "He came!" I shouted.



Questions

1. In which month is the story set?

2. Draw **three** lines and match the characters in the story with the presents they received.

Mice	games console
Jamie	new clothes
Jenny	small presents wrapped in ribbons

3. Name **two** things that the Jacksons ate for Christmas dinner.

4. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- ☐ The mice find their own presents.
- ☐ Everyone watched The Queen on the television.
- ☐ The mice wake up.
- ☐ The humans eat Christmas dinner.

5. Which of these words is closest in meaning to the word 'darting'? Tick one.

- ☐ tiptoeing
- ☐ running quickly
- ☐ skipping
- ☐ trudging

6. Why do the mice stay out of sight of the humans? Tick one.

- ☐ They were playing hide-and-seek.
- ☐ There was no reason to be hidden.
- ☐ The mice do not want to be seen by humans.
- ☐ The mice were invisible.