

# Christmas iPad Activities – Y3&4

## Activity 1 (Year 3+4): Advent Calendar using *thinglink*

Thinglink is a website ([www.thinglink.com](http://www.thinglink.com)), so no need for any app install (though [there is one](#)) and of course you can use it on computers too. Just get a teacher to [create an account](#) for their class (it's free) and get going.

You add a picture to create your "thinglink" then share it with the class, via a web link or by [creating a QR code](#) to display on the whiteboard (children will need a [QR code reader](#) on their iPads to read a QR code) they can all add tags to the picture (after research). Take a look at the *Settings* – you can open it up so that anyone with the link can edit and keep it "private" so only those with the link can see / edit it.



Here's one I started. <https://www.thinglink.com/scene/729284923562655745> (or scan the QR Code below).



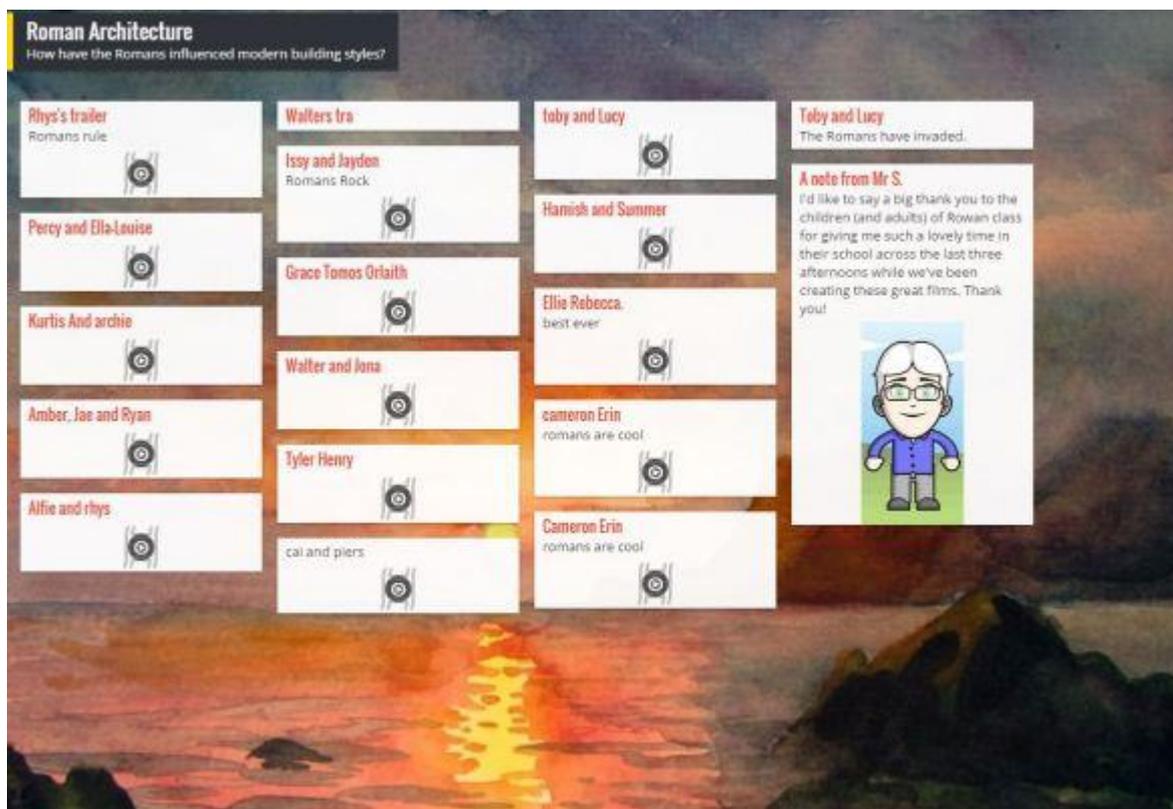
It's open for editing and private to the people with the link. Try adding your own fact about Advent (it's anonymous unless you choose to add your name!) If you're really pressed for time just invite the children to contribute to my one. Don't forget to share what you make with me.

## Activity 5 (Y3+4): Use Padlet to share the Christmas joy – and the whole year through!

It's so important to give children a proper audience and purpose for their work, even if this is only mum and dad. (It's also a great way to get the message out to parents that iPads offer huge educational and creative potential.)

There are many ways to share things and we'd love to come and take you through some of them in a staff meeting. A really easy gain, however, is to sign up for a FREE Padlet account ([www.padlet.com](http://www.padlet.com)). You then create "walls" which you can easily share with the children via a QR code (Padlet generates that for you on the *share* button). Children then upload their finished work to the wall (posting their name as a title). Printed QR codes can be sent home for parents to view their work on their smart phones.

[Here's an example of a Padlet wall from Whitchurch Primary.](#) We created it for the children to share some trailers (see day 4) they'd made with their parents.



You should look into the settings, by default the walls you create are visible only to those who have the link (QR code) so that's good. You may wish to lock your wall from further editing once it is complete so that when it goes live to parents it's not possible for further posing to take place. Having said that, it's cool to ask your children to go home and watch some of their friends' work and post positive comments as a homework task (great e-safety discussion opportunity...).

## Activity 10 (Y3+4): Aldi Christmas Ad – Poetry with Puppet Pals

The [Aldi 2016 Christmas ad](#) is a great animation that could easily be copied in a simpler style by using [Puppet Pals](#). It uses [Clement Clarke Moore's poem \*The Night Before Christmas\*](#) so great for a link to Literacy by getting the children to rework the poem themselves.



They could choose their own Christmas character (or use the Kevin the Carrot idea from the ad), photograph their main character then design or search for their own backgrounds. Puppet Pals is a really easy way to put the whole thing together once they have written and rehearsed their poem.