

The Twal Days o Yule Tide

Yule is the Scots word for Christmas. Writing a Scots version of the traditional song *The Twelve Days of Christmas* is a fun activity for learning new Scots words and for getting the festive season underway.

Writing your own *Twal Days o Yule Tide* song is easy. And if you're not sure, you'll find lots of help in this pack to get you started.

If you don't know the original song, you can listen to it here:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQEOBZLx-Z8>

Let's look at an example by a pupil from Touch Primary School in Fife to see how she wrote her own Scots version of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*.



Louisa Murray fae Touch Primary: Twal Days o Yule Tide

Louisa Murray's Twal Days o Yule Tide

On the twalfth day o Yule Tide,
Ma darlin gied tae me,
Twal faimlies booncin,
Eleeven coos chawin,
Ten grannies greetin,
Nine polis dauncin,
Eicht fermers fleein,
Seeven snawmen shooglin,
Sax sweemin deuks,
FIVE DROOKIT DUGS
Fower muckle Murrays,
Three crabbit carlines,
Twa glaikit gowfers
And a partrick up a peer tree.

Write your own *Twal Days o Yule Tide* using the word sheet below to help you.

You'll need to think about NOUNS (naming words), ADJECTIVES (describing words) and VERBS (doing words). And don't forget to use the NUMBERS in Scots.

For lines 2 - 5, you need NUMBER + ADJECTIVE + NOUN.

eg FIVE DROOKIT DUGS

And for lines 6 - 12, you'll need NUMBER + NOUN + VERB.

eg. Seeven snawmen shooglin

There are also a number of versions of the Scots song on our other websites.

<http://www.scotshoose.com/resources/The+Twelve+Days+o+Yule+Tide.pdf>

<http://www.scotseducation.co.uk/scotsthehail.html>

Find the TWAL DAYS Scots word sheet on the next page.

TWAL DAYS O YULE TIDE word sheet

**On the first day o Yule Tide, ma darlin gied tae me
a pairtrick up a peer tree**

On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me,
a partridge in a pear tree

NOUNS (naming words)

doos pigeons

craws crows

dugs dogs

tods foxes

gowks cuckoos

deuks ducks

troot trout

yowes ewes

coos cows

brocks badgers

bairns or bairnies children

carlines witches

bogles ghosts

sodgers soldiers

fermers farmers

lassies girls

laddies boys

warlocks wizards

grannies

faimlies families

polis police

gowfers golfers

draigons dragons

snawmen snowmen

ADJECTIVES (describing words)

bonnie beautiful

braw handsome

drookit soaking wet

sleekit sneaky

glaiokit stupid

cauld cold

muckle big

tottie tiny
crabbit grumpy
clarty dirty

VERBS (doing words)

booncin bouncing
fleein flying
birlin spinning
mairchin marching
lauchin laughing
dauncin dancing
lowpin jumping
greetin crying
haiverin talking nonsense
shooglin shaking
bletherin talking
joukin dodging
sweemin swimming
chawin chewing

NUMBERS

Twa, three, fower, five, sax, seeven, eicht, nine, ten,
eleeven, twal