



Multi-Sensory Christmas

JOURNEY THROUGH THE
NATIVITY STORY

AN INTERACTIVE CHRISTMAS
EXPERIENCE FOR CHILDREN

AN INTERACTIVE CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE FOR CHILDREN

Welcome!

This is an exciting and important time of year for millions of people around the world as we unite in celebrating Jesus' birth.

Join us from your homes or churches and using every single one of our incredible senses we will discover what happened that very first Christmas.

HOW IT WORKS

Start at the beginning of the nativity story; read the Bible passage and then select your activities as you travel through and complete each section of the journey. You don't need to do every activity on each page, unless you really want to of course!

Each part of the story comes with its own Myth Busting section and How To Video.

If you would like some additional inspiration scan or click the Pincode to the left to discover a whole world of creativity on our special Pinterest board.



Open  and tap  for ideas

The Angel's Visit

LUKE 1: 26-38

MYTH BUSTING

- **Fiction** - Angels are cute chubby babies with wings.
- **Fact** - Gabriel was one of God's messengers and the Bible suggests his appearance was quite intimidating. He had to reassure Mary by saying, "Do not be afraid."
- **Fiction** - Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and then visited Joseph in a dream.
- **Fact** - Gabriel appeared to Mary but the Bible doesn't tell us the name of the angel that appeared to Joseph.

HOW TO VIDEO

Scan or click the QR code to watch the video and find out how to make a Scented Angel.



THE ACTIVITIES

SIGHT



Light Hop

In a darkened room, a grown up shines a torch onto the floor and the children must jump onto the light. Have fun hopping about as you follow the light moving around.

Lesson: Mary listened and followed what the angel said.

SOUND



Sweet Singing Bells

Thread jingle bells onto some string or pipe cleaners, then wrap them around a twig or lolly stick. Listen to a joyful Christmas Carol and play your instrument.

Lesson: Angels sing sweet praises to God, let us do the same.

SMELL



Scented Angel

Using scented play dough (See the How To Video) create an angel shape. Notice how the smell has a calming effect.

Lesson: Mary was scared by the angel at first, but God can give us peace to help us feel calm in unknown situations.

TASTE



Angel Food Cake

Visit our Pinterest board for recipe suggestions to make a delicious Angel Food Cake.

Lesson: The sweetness of the cake reminds us of God's goodness as Mary receives this very special news.

TOUCH



Angel Decoration

Make an angel decoration out of yarn or twine to hang on your Christmas tree. See our Pinterest board for inspiration.

Question: How would you feel if you saw an angel?

REMEMBER THESE ACTIVITIES ARE JUST OUR SUGGESTIONS. VISIT OUR PINTEREST BOARD FOR EVEN MORE IDEAS AND INSPIRATION!



Journey to Bethlehem

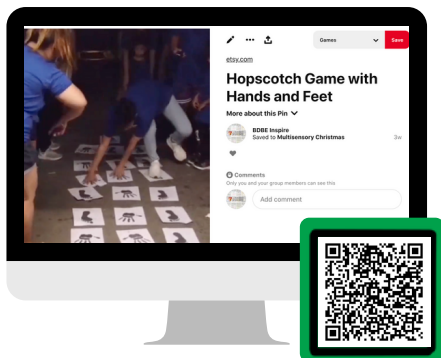
LUKE 2: 1-5

MYTH BUSTING

- **Fiction** - Mary travelled to Bethlehem on a donkey.
- **Fact** - It's possible, but a donkey is not mentioned in the Bible account. It's perhaps more likely that Mary and Joseph travelled on foot.
- **Fiction** - Mary and Joseph visited a number of Innkeepers when they arrived in Bethlehem looking for a place to stay.
- **Fact** - It is likely that Mary and Joseph had relatives to stay with in Bethlehem. When the Bible says there was 'no room at the inn' it is believed to mean there was no guest room available.

HOW TO VIDEO

Scan or click the QR code to watch the video and find out how to play the Hopscotch game.



THE ACTIVITIES

SIGHT



Ice Melt

Place a large ice cube in a glass and watch it melt. How long did it take? How did you feel waiting for it to happen?

Lesson: Mary & Joseph's journey took a long time (a few days). They needed patience, just like waiting for the ice to melt.

SOUND



Journey Sounds

Go on a walk and listen to the sounds that different vehicles make as they go past. What can you hear? Can you tell if they're moving fast or slow by their sounds?

Question: What sounds do you think Mary and Joseph heard on their journey?

SMELL



Nature Painting

Use a small branch from a pine tree (with needles) as a paint brush to create a piece of artwork. The wonderful smell of the evergreen (**always** green) pine often reminds us of Christmas.

Lesson: Mary and Joseph were always faithful to God.

TASTE



Energy Bar

Bake your own energy bar. Either use your own recipe, or find inspiration on our Pinterest Board.

Question: Have you ever been on a long walk? What kept you going until the end? How did you feel?

Lesson: Mary & Joseph needed energy for their long journey.

TOUCH



Hands and Feet Hopscotch

Watch our How To Video to discover how to play this fun twist on a classic game.

Question: What is your favourite way to travel? See our Myth Busters to find out how Mary & Joseph travelled to Bethlehem!

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Jesus is Born

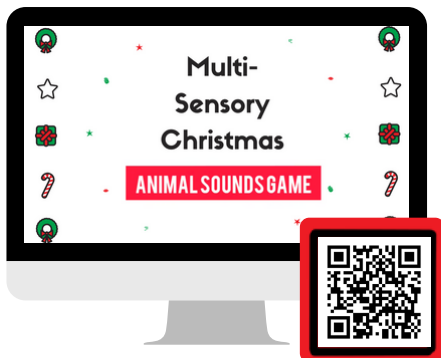
LUKE 2: 6-7

MYTH BUSTING

- **Fiction** - Jesus was born in a stable or cave.
- **Fact** - In Biblical times, people often lived in the upper rooms of a two storey house, whilst the animals were sheltered in the ground floor areas. We know there was no space in the guest room of the house where Mary and Joseph stayed, but the Bible says when Jesus was born, he was placed in a manger, suggesting they were staying in the lower level amongst the animals.

GAME VIDEO

Scan or click on the QR code to access the Animal Sounds Game that goes with this session.



THE ACTIVITIES

SIGHT



Shadow Puppet Nativity

Create a Shadow Puppet Nativity by cutting out paper figures. See our Pinterest board for inspiration.

Question: How can we make the real meaning of Christmas shine light in the darkness?

SOUND



Animal Sounds Game

Watch the video that goes with this session. Can you guess the animals that make each of the sounds?

Lesson: When Jesus was born he was laid in a manger which tells us it's likely there were animals nearby.

SMELL



Nativity Posada

Put sweet smelling hay in a small box, then add peg dolls decorated as Mary, Joseph and Jesus. Pass round your nativity box to friends and family as a way of sharing the nativity story.

Lesson: The good news of Jesus' birth is meant to be shared.

TASTE



Edible Nativity Scene

Instead of a gingerbread house, make an Edible Nativity Scene out of gingerbread or using other edible treats. See our Pinterest board for ideas.

Question: What would Jesus' birth actually have looked like compared to the version we see on Christmas cards?

TOUCH



Hug in a Mug

Make some hot chocolate. Feel the warmth of the mug when you are holding it and the comfort you get from drinking it. It is like receiving a hug from someone we love!

Lesson: For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only Son. (John 3:16)

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The Shepherd's Visit

LUKE 2: 8-20

MYTH BUSTING

- **Fiction** - God sent a radiant choir of angels to sing to the shepherds the news of Jesus' birth.
- **Fact** - The Bible says 'an angel of the Lord' appeared to the shepherds and told them the news, and this was followed by the appearance of 'a great company of the heavenly host'. 'Company' and 'host' are military terms which suggests God sent an army of warrior angels. The Bible also doesn't say that they sang, although they may have done.

HOW TO VIDEO

Scan or click on the QR code to watch the video and find out how to make our Beaded Shepherd's Crook decoration.



THE ACTIVITIES

SIGHT



Night Time Sensory bottle

Have fun making, then watching a Starry Sky Sensory Bottle. See our Pinterest board for inspiration.

Lesson: The shepherds were watching their sheep at night when the angels arrived to tell them the news.

SOUND



Follow the Sound

Hide something in your room that makes a sound, then challenge the children to follow the sound to find the item you have hidden.

Question: Sheep follow the sound of their shepherd. What other story in the Bible does this remind you of?

SMELL



Guess the Smell

Blindfold the children and invite them to identify different smells from outside, such as grass, dirt, sheep fleece, etc.

Question: What things would the shepherd have been able to smell whilst they were watching their sheep?

TASTE



Eat Like a Sheep

Taste a variety of lettuces and other leafy herbs and salad vegetables. Which was your favourite? Do you think sheep enjoy eating grass all day?

Lesson: Sheep are mentioned lots of times in the Bible. Jesus was even referred to as the Lamb of God.

TOUCH



Beaded Shepherd's Crook

Watch our How To Video to discover how to make this fun craft, which can become a decoration for your Christmas tree.

Lesson: No matter where we're from or who we are, God loves us and wants us to meet with Him.

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The Magi's Visit

MATTHEW 2: 1-12

MYTH BUSTING

- **Fiction** - The Magi were three kings that came from the Orient.
- **Fact** - The Magi weren't kings but wise men that studied the stars. We also aren't sure how many there were but we know they brought three gifts.
- **Fiction** - The Magi found Jesus lying in the manger.
- **Fact** - The Magi arrived quite some time after Jesus was born. He would have been a child rather than a baby when the Magi found him.

HOW TO VIDEO

Scan or click the QR code to watch the video and find out how to make our fun iSpy Bottles.



THE ACTIVITIES

SIGHT



iSpy Bottle

Watch our How To Video to learn how to make a fun iSpy Bottle. Then challenge someone to tell you what they can find.

Lesson: The Magi were told to search "diligently" for the child, which means to look REALLY hard. They followed the signs and found him.

SOUND



Joyful Noise Hunt

Explore your house or space and see what noises you can find. Which ones bring you joy?

Question: When the Magi found Jesus they were overcome with joy! What do you think that felt like?

SMELL



Pomander

Enjoy making this tradition scented Christmas decoration. See our Pinterest board for inspiration.

Lesson: The Magi brought gifts for Jesus, including smelly Frankincense and Myrrh.

TASTE



Wise Men Pancakes

Pour batter mix into gingerbread men shaped cutters to make Wise Men Pancakes. Add cinnamon or other spices if you wish.

Lesson: The Magi came from the East, an area well known for using fragrant spices in their food.

TOUCH



Christmas Star

Make Star decorations using coloured yarn and sticky PVA glue. See our Pinterest board for inspiration and instructions.

Lesson: The Magi followed the star to Jesus and almost ended up in a sticky situation because they disobeyed Herod.

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